

# *Anomalous low frequency dissipation in metals*

## *problems and solutions*

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# Abstract

It was long understood that the presence of dislocations reduces the material Young's modulus by several percent. It was also well understood that for a given dislocation density in the material the "modulus defect" depends strongly from the average free length of each dislocation between pinning points.

It was well known that dislocation can entangle and effectively pin each other (work hardening is an example).

Nobody realized that during slow transients dislocation dis-entanglement can occur. Disentanglement of dislocations leads to exotic behaviors like temporary change of resonant frequency, random walk of equilibrium position, in extreme cases spontaneous collapse, very large dissipation while dislocations re-arrange.

We observed a phase transition at low frequency with dislocations acting collectively at low frequency (avalanching) and independently at high frequency.

Several measurements illustrating the above scenario will be shown.

The exotic effect observed have profound implications in the design of seismic attenuation for low frequency GW observatories and for all sort of inertial sensors.

These effects may also affect the present GW detectors. Ideas on how to mitigate these effects are discussed at the end.

# OUTLINE

- Theory

  - Dislocation and dissipation, hystorical review

  - Individual vs. Collective dislocations movement

  - Self Organized Criticality (SOC)

- Experimental method

  - What is a GAS filter, why did we use it

- Data analysis and results

  - Hysteresis

  - Low frequency instability

  - Q factor measurements

  - Dissipation dependence from amplitude

  - Frequency dependence from amplitude

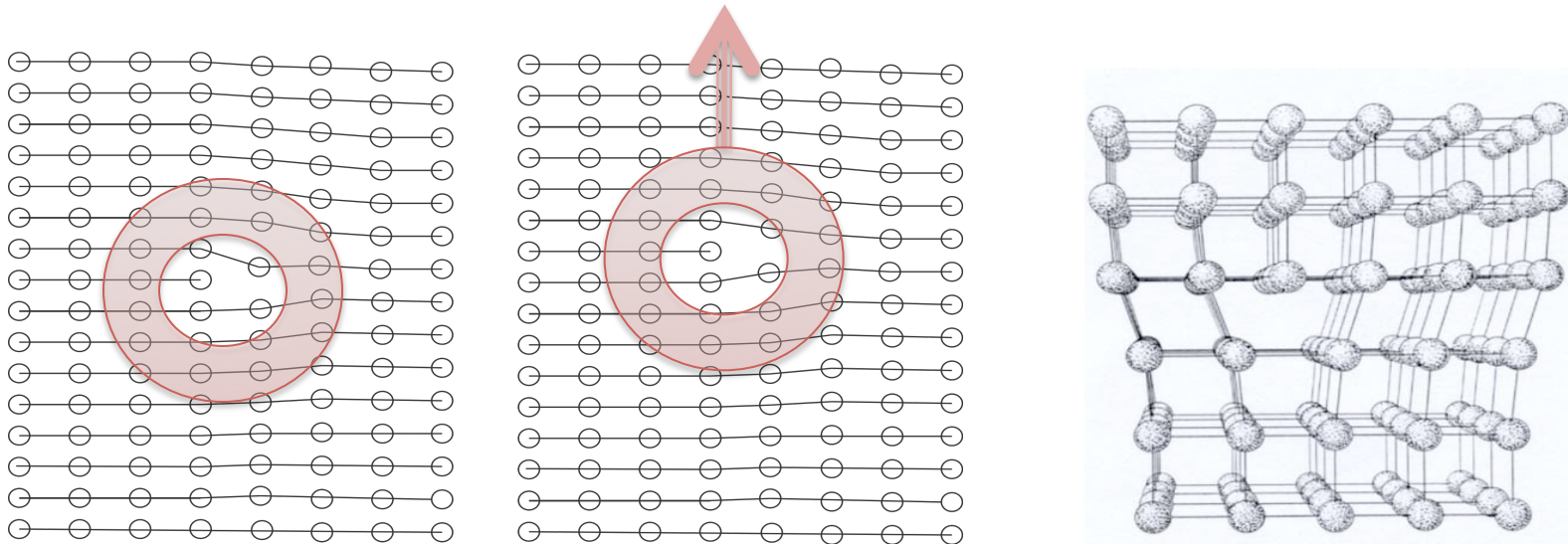
  - GAS transfer function

- Conclusions

- Future work

# Dislocations basics

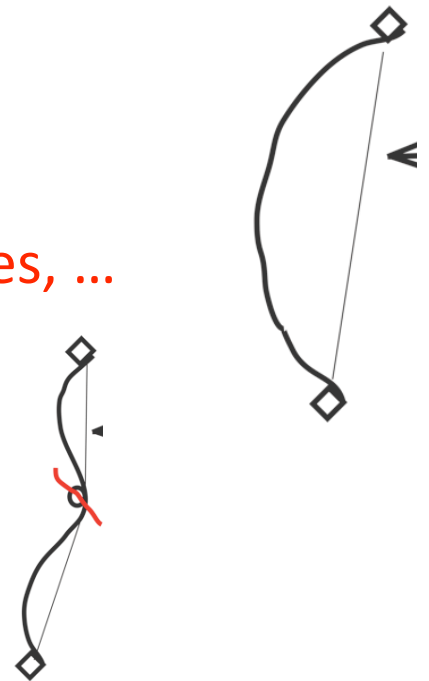
- Dislocations (line, screw) are crystal linear defects.
- they can move “almost” freely through a “zipper” effect (switching the covalent bonds of metals costs no energy )
- They are Pushed by moving stress gradients,



- They are voids in crystal that cost energy (=> they repel)

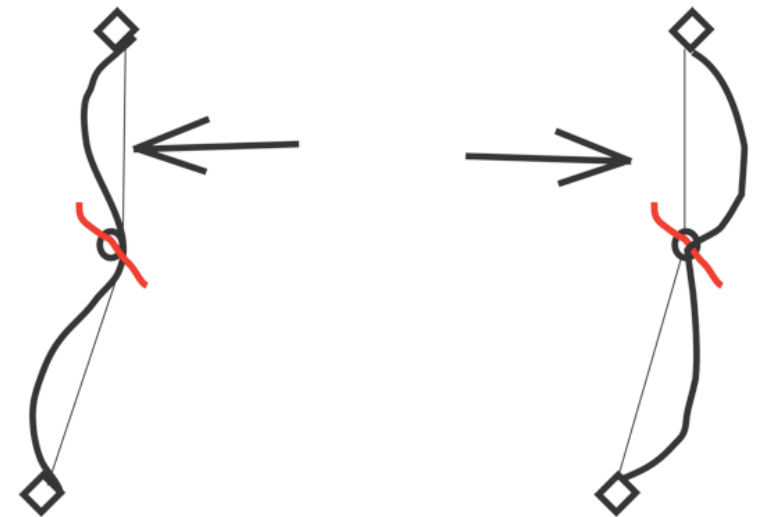
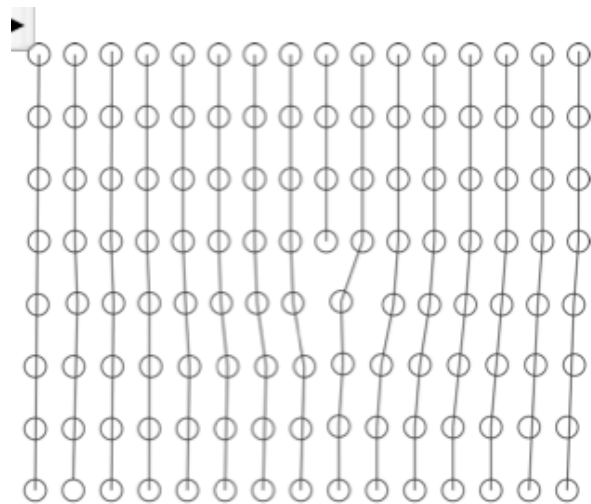
# Dislocations basics

- Dislocations cannot end inside crystal (simple topological arguments)
- Extend across the entire grain or form closed loops
- Mostly move rather freely across crystal
- Get pinned at various intervals by
  - point defects like impurities, atomic vacancies, ...
  - Other dislocations



# *Dislocations (established facts)*

- It is well established that dislocations are at the base of dissipation in metals
- Dislocations dissipate by drifting with delay under oscillating stress and forming arches



**A. Granato, et al.**, "Theory of mechanical damping due to dislocations", Jour. Of Appl. Phys., vol 27, n 6, p583-593, 1956

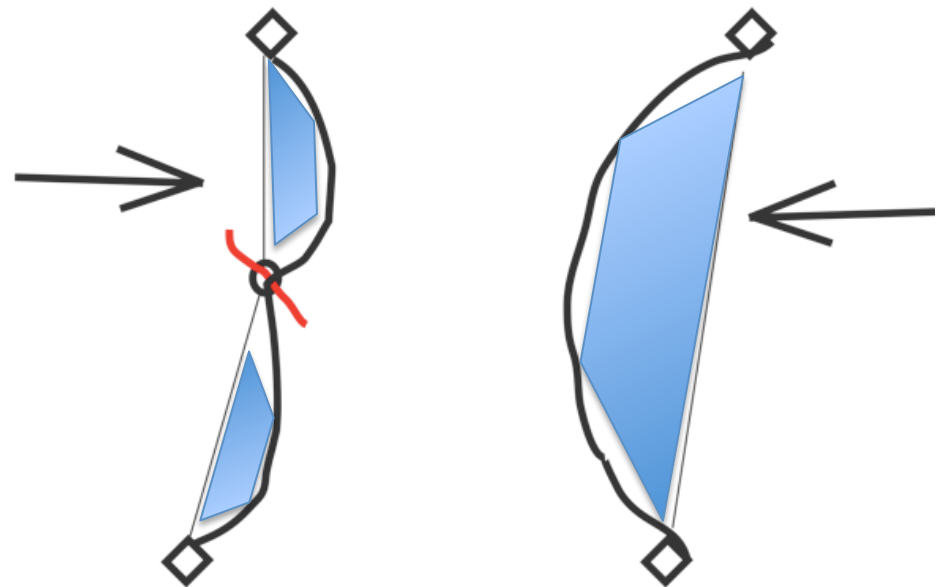
# *Dislocations (established facts)*

- More dislocations /  $\text{cm}^3 \Rightarrow$  More dissipation
- Thousands of km of dislocation/  $\text{cm}^3$  in carefully grown monocrystals with negligible work hardening ( $>1/\mu\text{m}^2$ )
- Orders of magnitude more in polycrystalline samples (stress of freezing, austenitic to martensitic transitions, lamination processes, machining)

D.O. Thompson, D.H. Holmes, "The effects of neutron irradiations on the young's modulus of copper single crystals", Jour. Appl. Phys., **27**-7, p 713-723, 1956

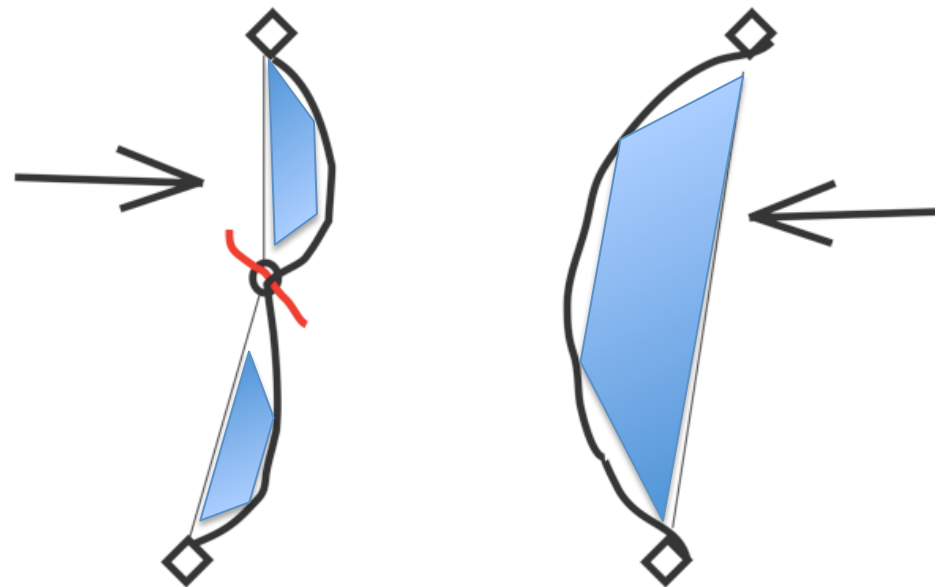
- At equal density of dislocation per  $\text{cm}^3$  longer free segments move more, span over larger areas and generate more dissipation
- Anchoring points of any kind reduce the average free length and the dissipation.

- Dissipation  $\sim l^4$

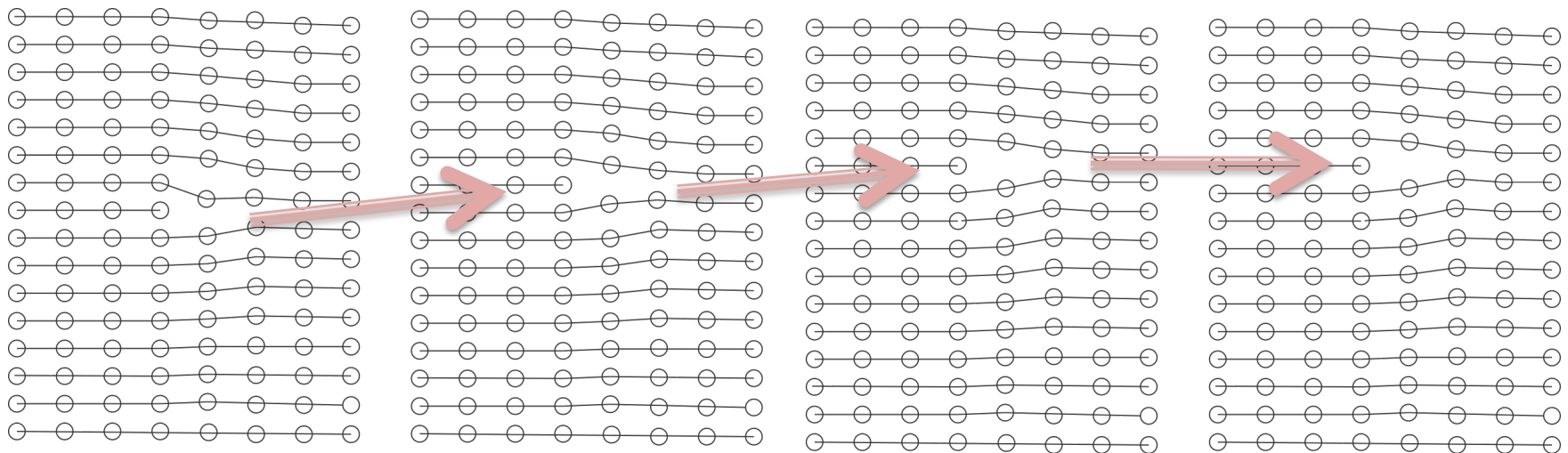




- Movement of dislocations generate Yield
- Young's modulus drops in presence of dislocations > 20% observed
- The material yield more for same stress field with more **and longer** dislocation
- →
- Modulus defect  $\sim l^2$



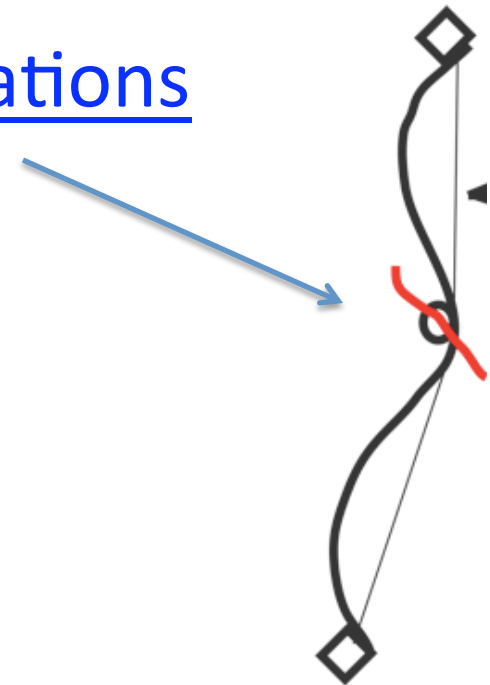
- Dislocations carry deformation.
- Moving dislocations deform the flexure
- Metastable transport of dislocations change the equilibrium point
  - Static hysteresis



- The free length of dislocation segments is reduced by pinning points, intentionally introduced in the metal grain
- Precipitates, carbon crystals, . . . .
- Dislocations can pin other dislocations

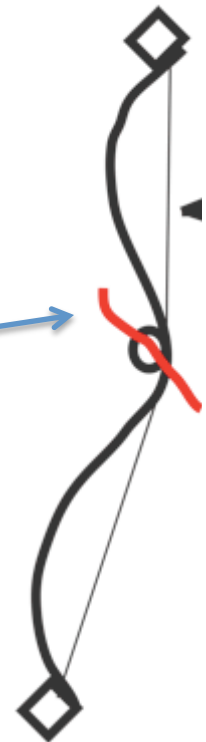
( → the invention of  
work hardening)

Material less lossy, more elastic

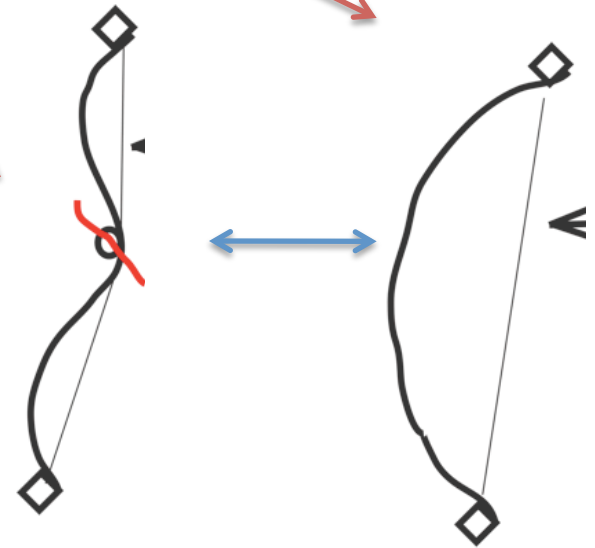


# Typical scales

- Few- tens of nm typical distance between dislocations
- Pinning points also spaced at tens of nm
- But point-like
- Dislocations cross entire crystal (um)
- Can turn around a pinning point
- Cannot turn around other dislocations
- Free length just as likely limited by entanglement than pinning



- Dislocations can move, but
- **Cannot cross each other** (energetically forbidden)
- **→** therefore will entangle and disentangle
- If **entanglement and disentanglement** are permitted
- **→** free length changes

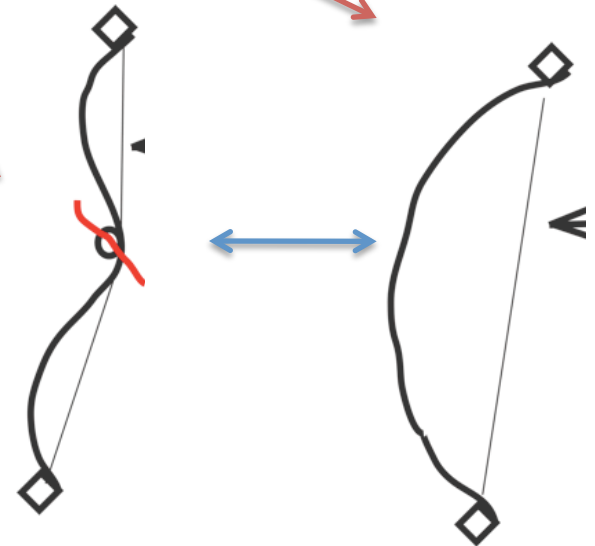


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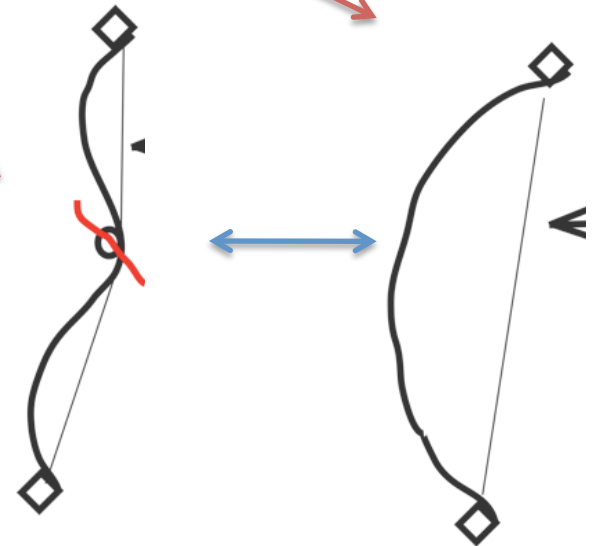
- → free length changes

- → Young's modulus unstable

- 



- Dislocations can move, but
- Cannot cross each other (energetically forbidden)
- → therefore will entangle and disentangle
- If entanglement and disentanglement are permitted
- → free length changes
- → Young's modulus unstable
- → Equilibrium point unstable



- Entanglement and disentanglement is an intrinsically slow process
- Many dislocations must drift sequentially
- Long time constants predicted
- Avalanching is predicted
- It can even be self triggering



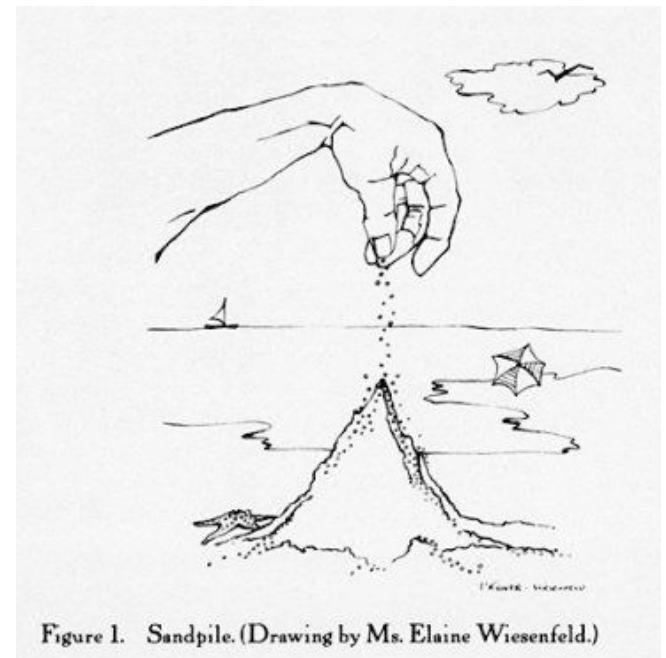


- ▶ At low frequency
  - ▶ Restoring forces are weak
  - ▶ dynamic disentanglement can be expected to have dramatic effects !

# *SOC theory*

- Entangled dislocations act collectively
- We observed a **LF** Dissipation Phase Transition From a regime in which
- Individual dislocation motion dominates
  - With “viscous” or “structural” damping
- To an avalanche dominated Regime controlled by Self Organized Criticality
  - States and rules

Per Bak 1996  
How nature works:  
The Science of Self-Organized Criticality



# *SOC theory*

- Self Organized Criticality mode (avalanches)

Means

- Hysteresis, random walk
- Changes of Young's modulus
- Dramatic change of dissipation

Other Predictions:

- Excess LF and 1/f noise
- Reduced attenuation power

Per Bak 1996  
How nature works:  
The Science of Self-Organized Criticality

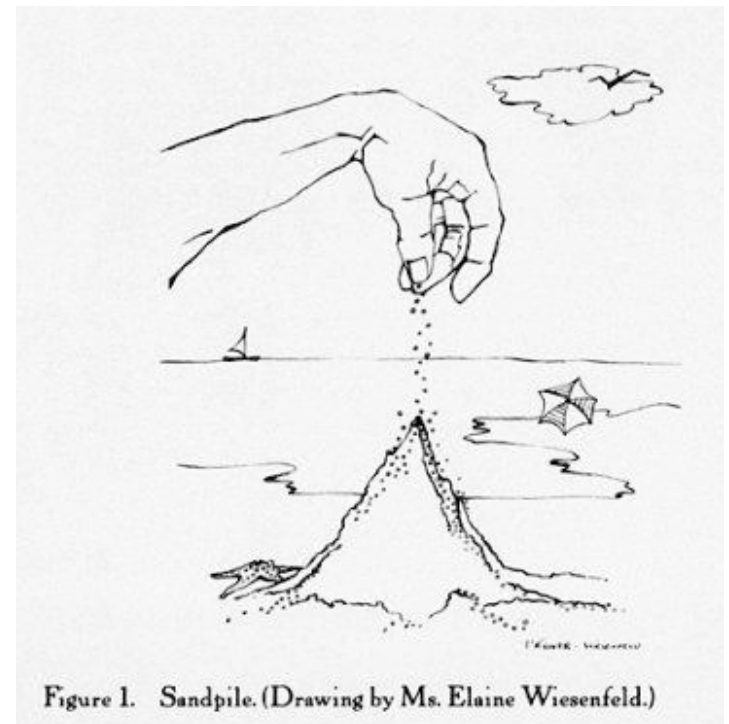


Figure 1. Sandpile. (Drawing by Ms. Elaine Wiesenfeld.)

# *Self Organized Criticality* (SOC)

- ▶ Movement of entangling dislocations is intrinsically **Fractal**
- ▶ => Does not follow our beloved linear rules !!
- ▶ => Avalanches induce random motion
- ▶ =>  $1/f$  noise to higher frequency



# *Space scales*

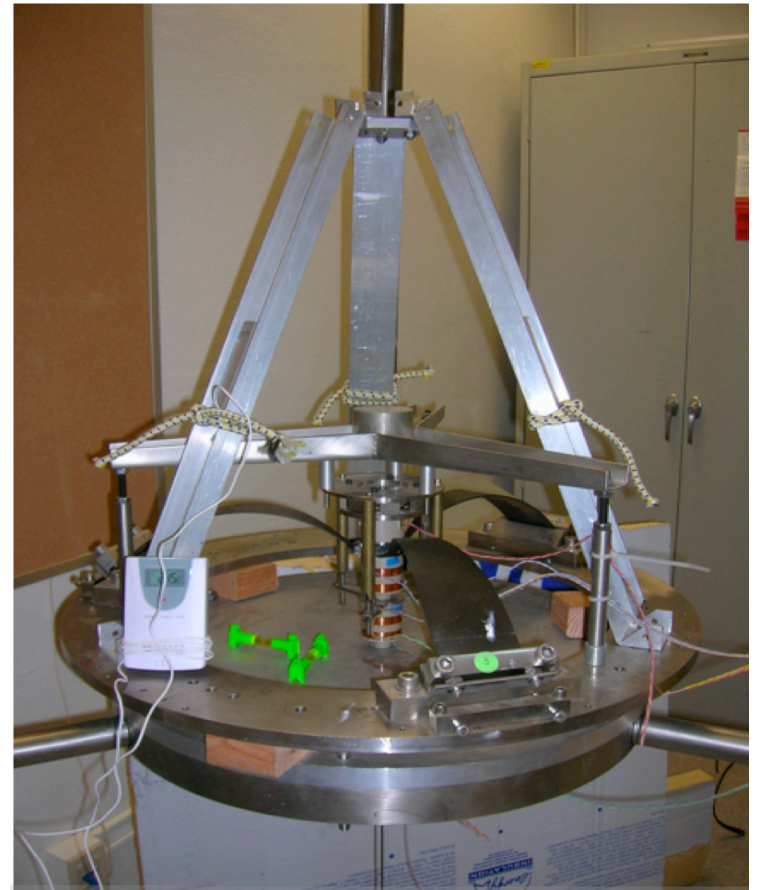
- ▶ Entanglement and collective dislocation motions can extend beyond crystals, across the entire sample
- ▶ Avalanches of dislocations can theoretically propagate through the entire sample
- ▶ We observe “catastrophic” effects extending across the entire size of the blades, ~38 cm.



# *Experimental setup*

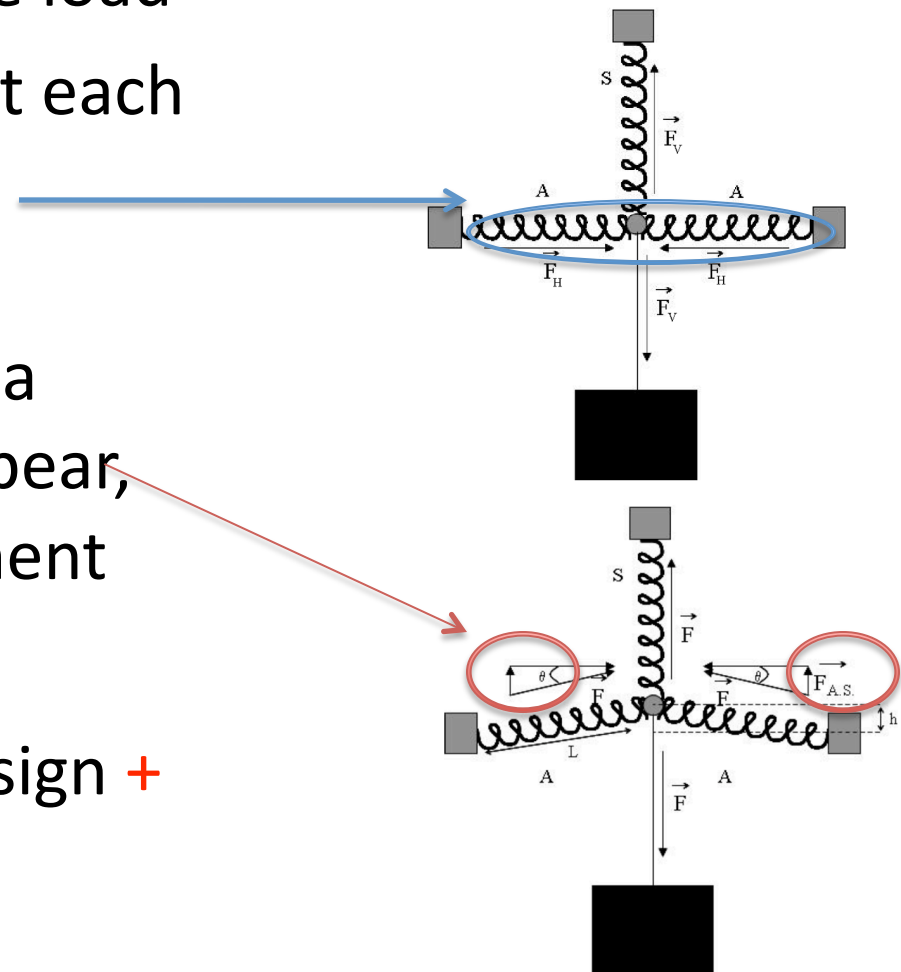
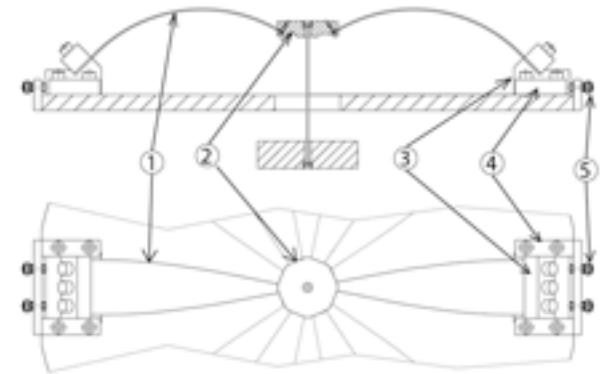
# *Experimental setup*

- THE GAS-EMAS filter
- A “microscope” for mesoscale effects



# The *Geometric Anti Spring (GAS)* mechanism

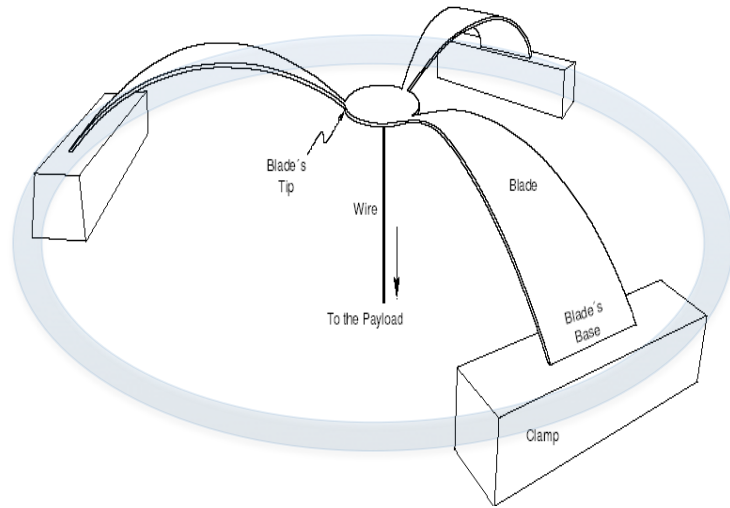
- Arched blades support the load
- Pushing the blades against each other generate a nulled repulsion force
- Vertical movement cause a vertical component to appear, proportional to displacement
- $F = k x$
- like a spring **but** with the sign +





# The GAS mechanism

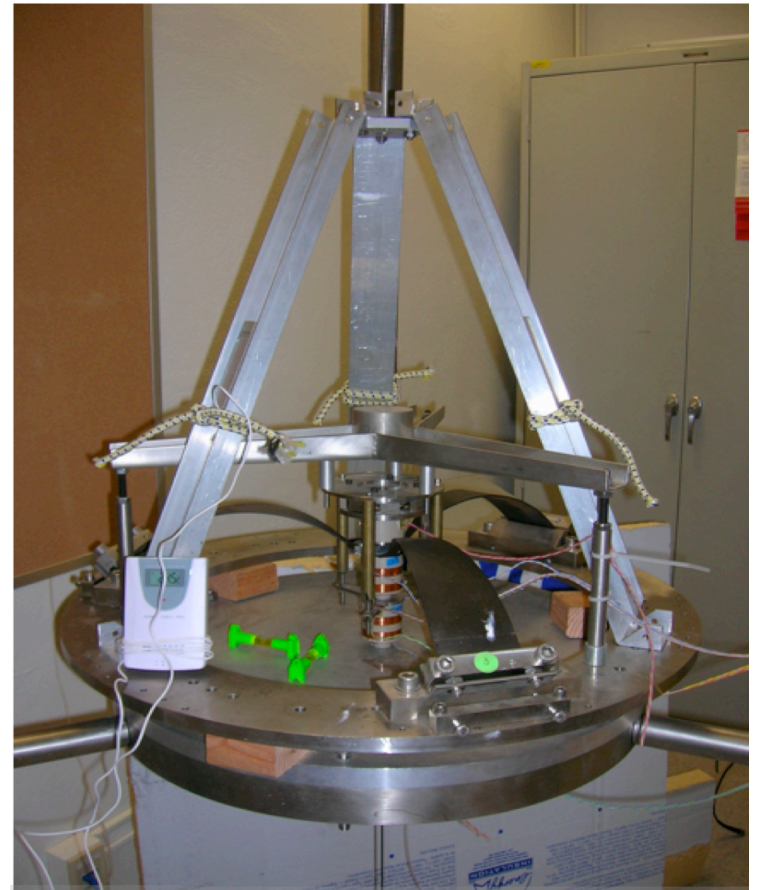
(Geometric Anti Spring)



Radially-arranged Maraging blades clamped to a frame ring.

The GAS mechanism nulls up to 95% of the spring restoring force, thus generating **low spring constant** and **low resonant frequency**.

But not sufficient yet!

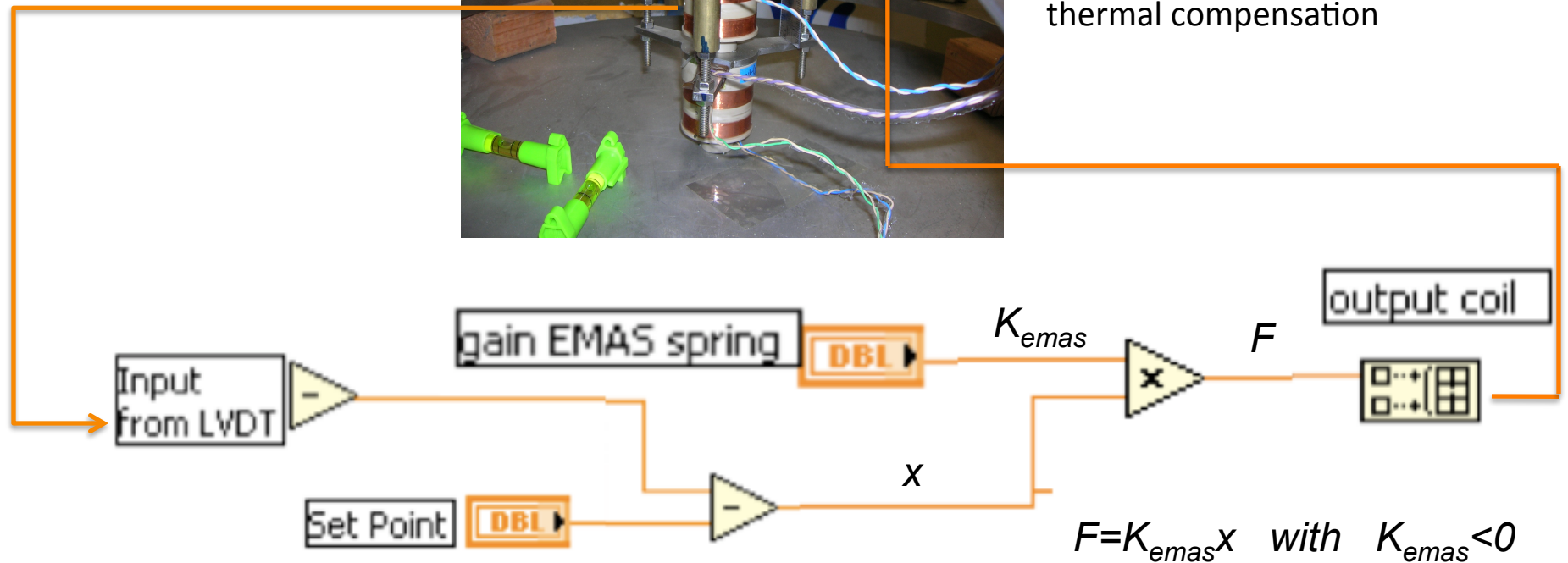
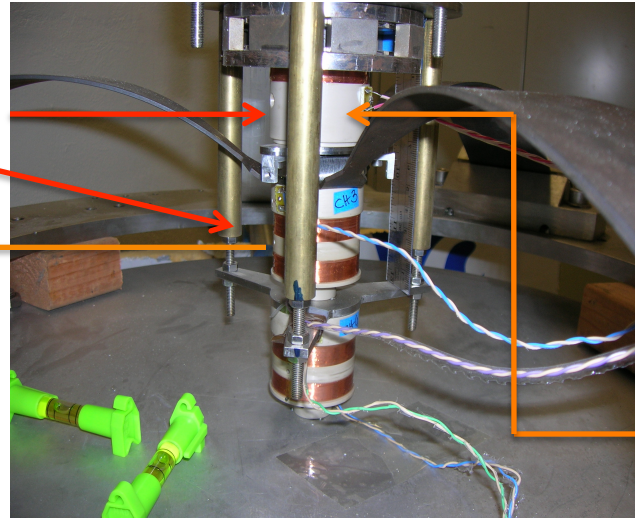


# The *ElectroMagnetic Anti Spring* (*EMAS*) mechanism

The EMAS mechanism is used to reach even lower restoring forces

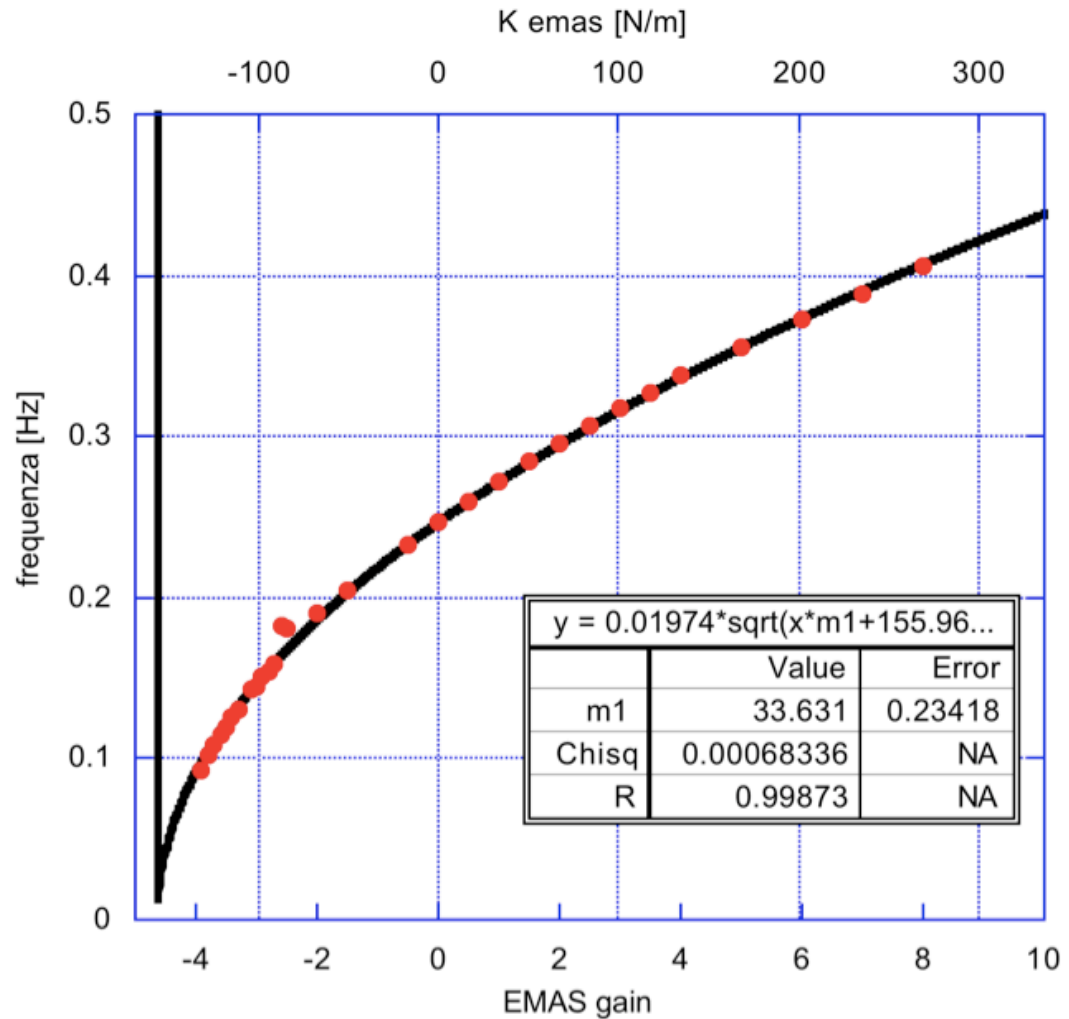
It allows remote tuning and thermal compensation

Non contacting **actuator**  
**LVDT** position sensors



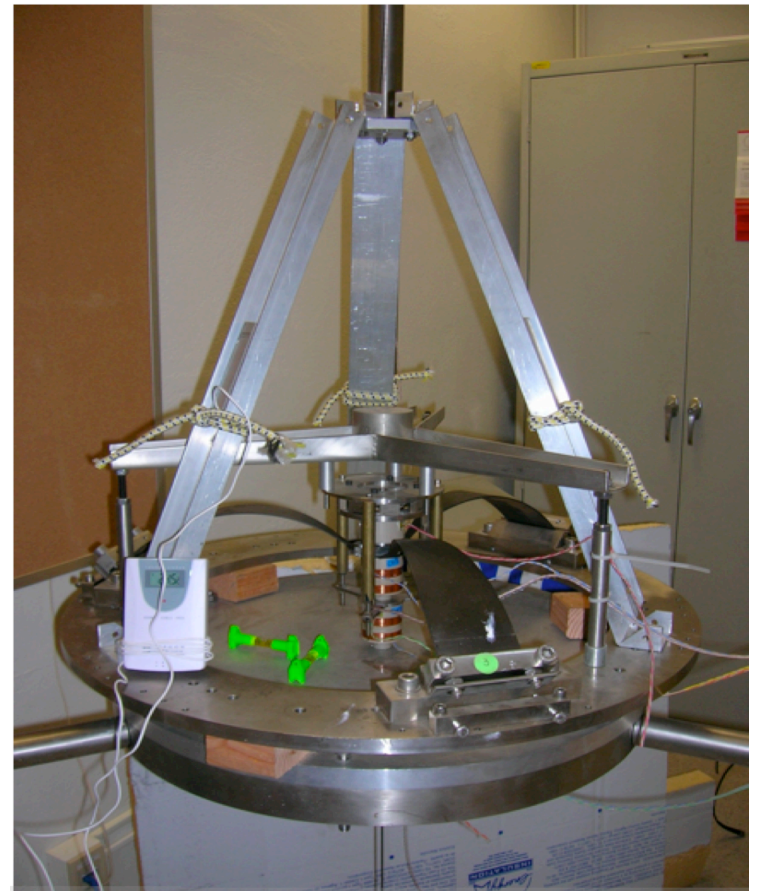
# How well GAS and EMAS work

- Filter's resonant frequency tuning



# *Experimental setup*

- **THE GAS-EMAS filter**
- A “**microscope**” for mesoscale effects
- the arbitrarily low resonant frequency from the Anti-Spring effects (**GAS** and **EMAS**) allow the exploration of **Hysteresis**, **Thermal effects**, **Self Organized Criticality** , and other underlying effects.

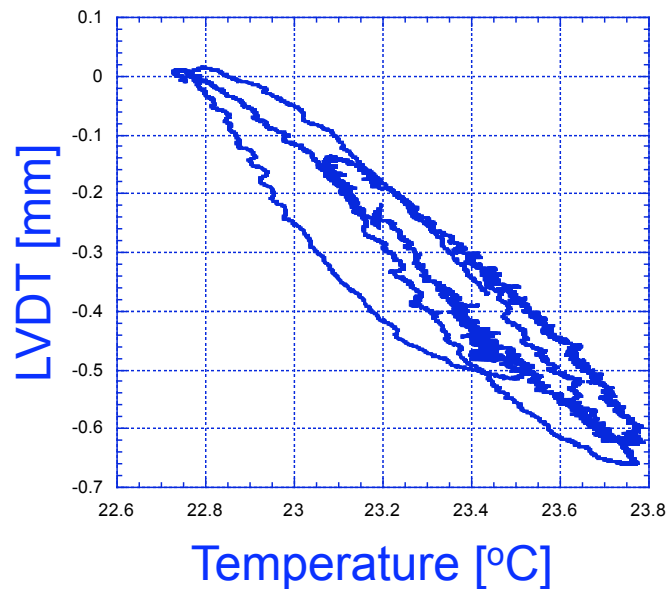


# Observed problems in Mechanical oscillators

- Inconsistencies in Inverted Pendula and Geometric Anti Spring filters
- Hysteresis, Random walk of equilibrium point, even sudden Instability
- Manifested only at lower frequency

# Evidence of hysteresis *without actual movement* in the thermal feedback

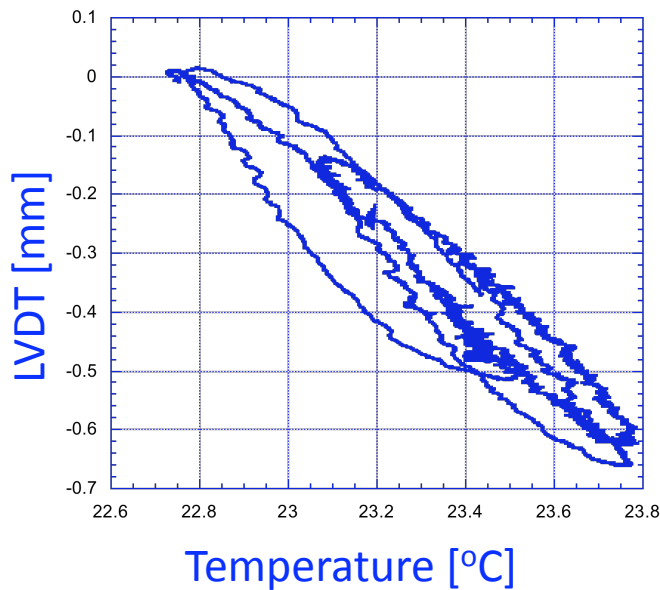
- Overnight lab thermal variations
- No feedback
- Thermal hysteresis of equilibrium point



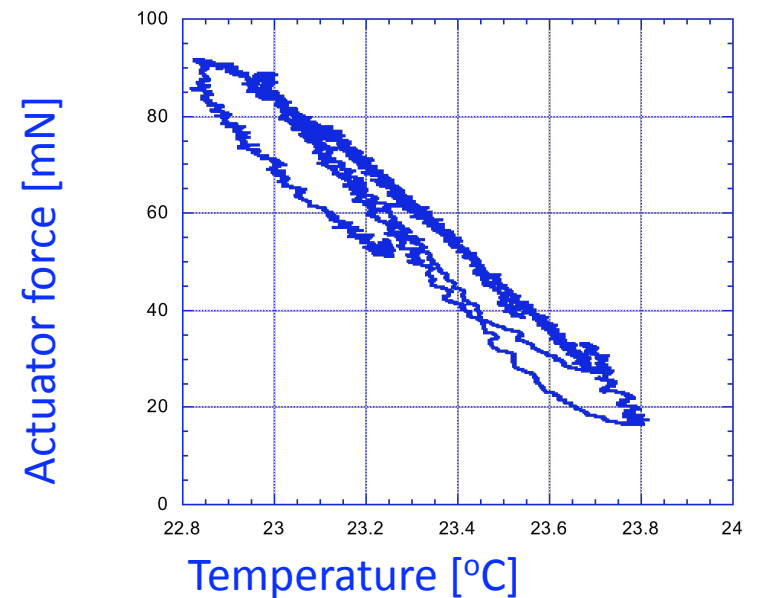
We tried to impeding hysteresis  
By impeding movement

# Hysteresis *without actual movement* !!

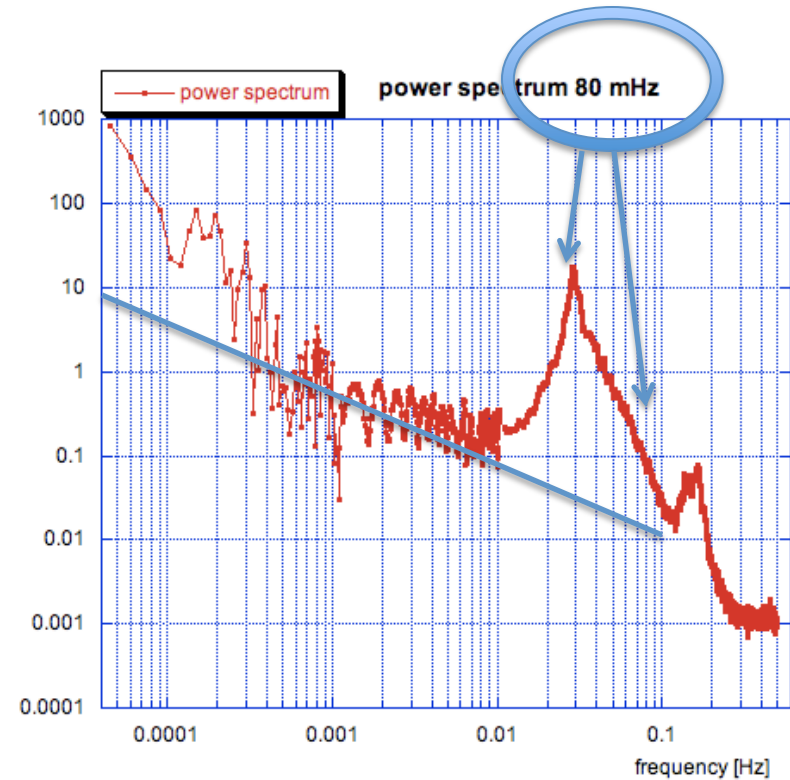
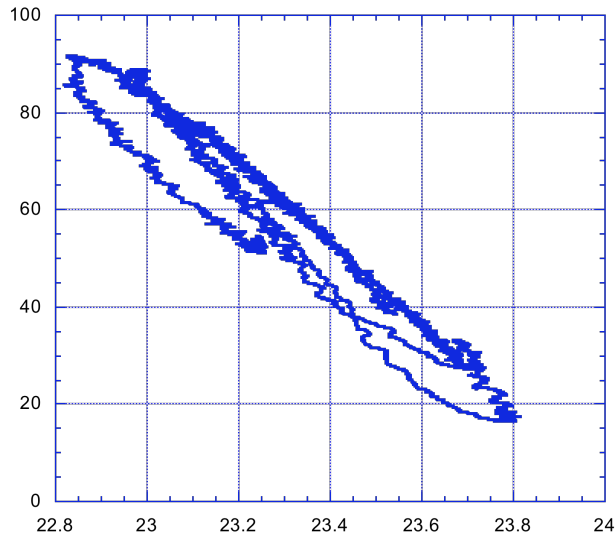
- Overnight lab thermal variations
- No feedback, free movement
- Thermal hysteresis of equilibrium point



- Position feedback on
- No actual movement, expect no hysteresis
- Hysteresis shifts to the control current !!



# Hysteresis *equal noise* !!!



Hysteresis does not originate from the macroscopic movement  
**but from a microscopic stress dynamics** inside the **material!**

Hysteresis advanced by bumps → 1/f noise



*Instability at Low frequency*

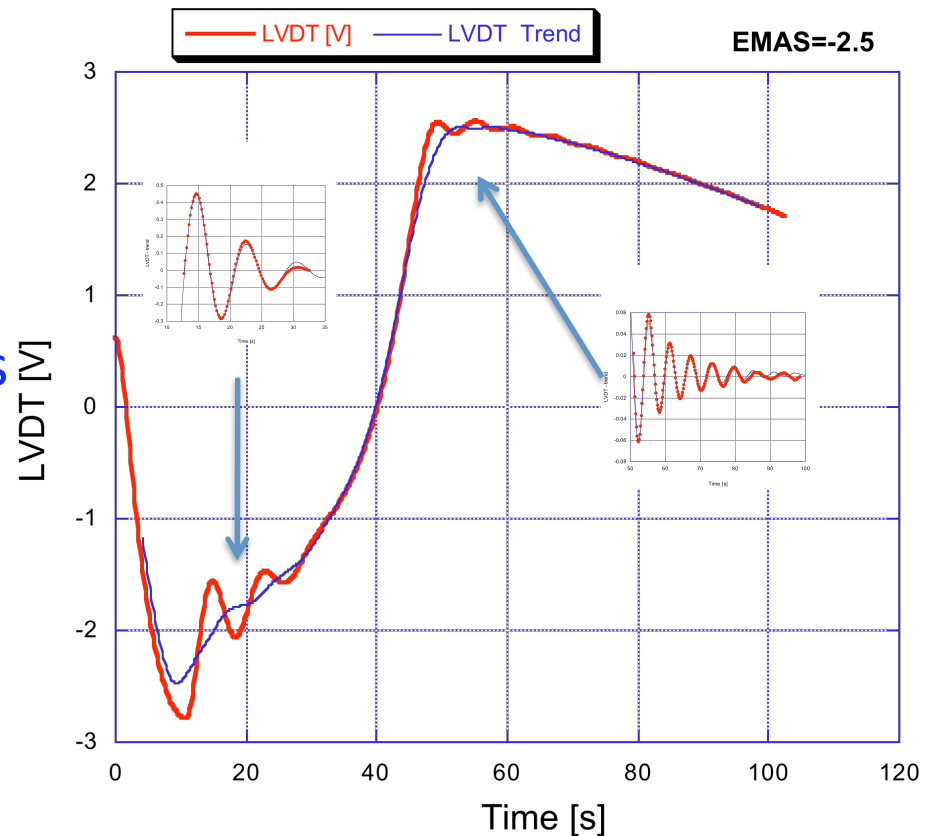
# Low frequency instability

- As the system approaches lower and lower frequencies, sometimes it suddenly escapes from its equilibrium position in an un-predictable way

=> RUNS-OFF

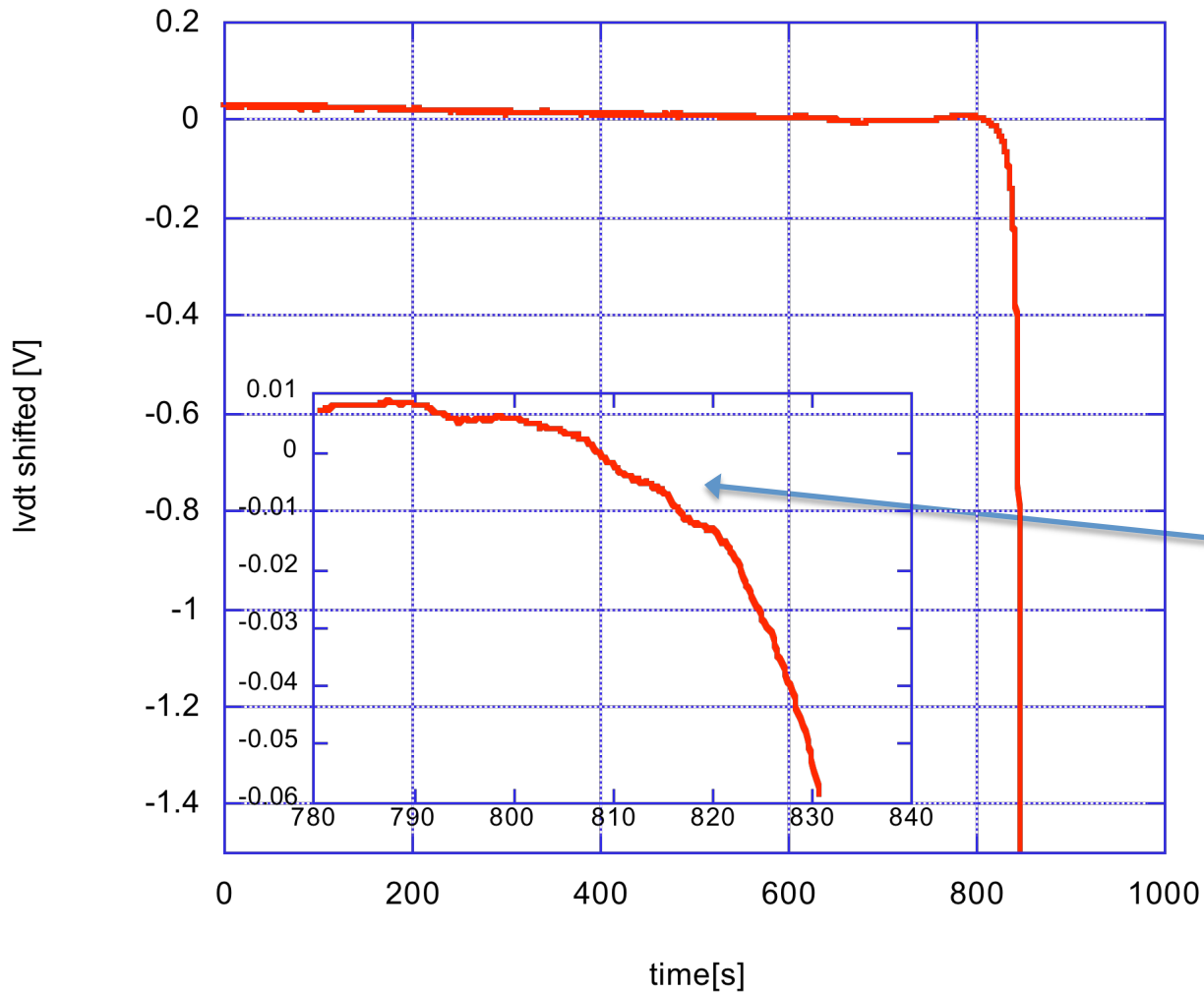
Example:

- excitation triggers a ringdown
- the spring spontaneously jumps to a new equilibrium point
- Oscillates around the new e.p.



# Changing Young's modulus → Instability

Some suddenly-activated mechanism occurs inside the blade



The filter abandons the equilibrium position slowly, then accelerates away

The time scale is of many seconds

The acceleration is "bumpy" due to individual avalanches

Avalanches propagate across the entire 38 cm blades

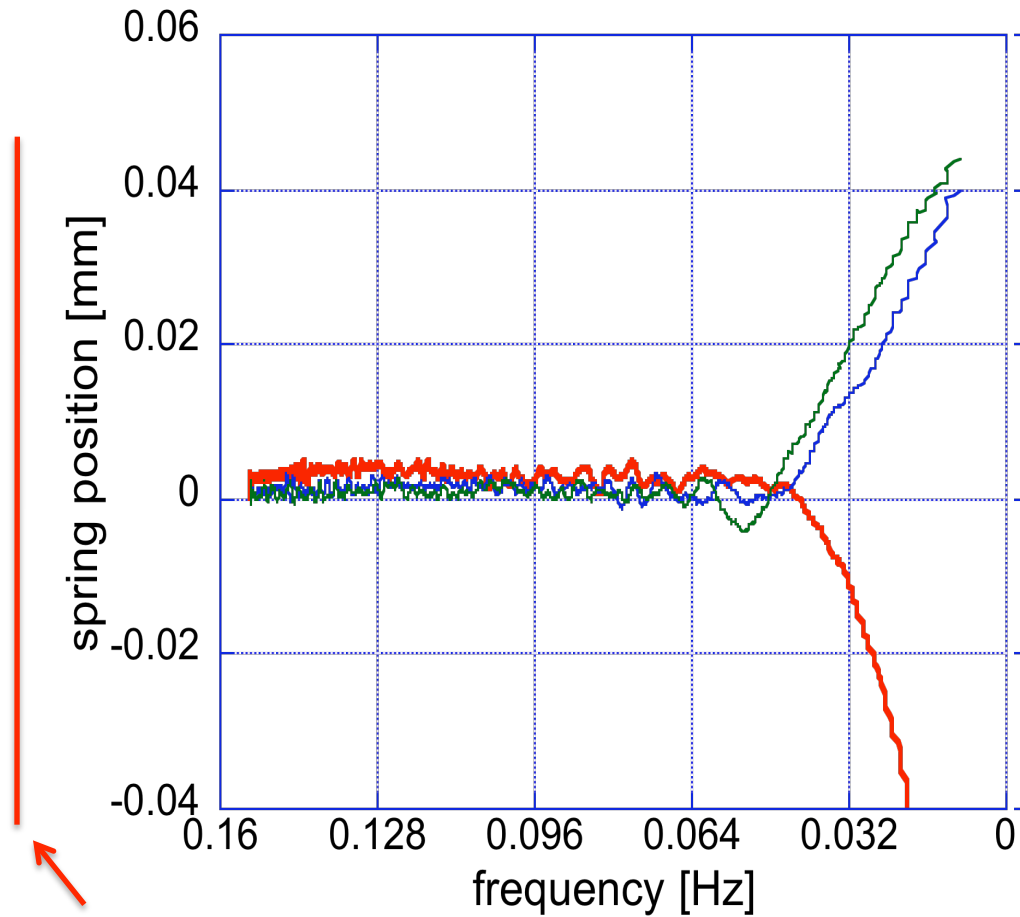
# Low frequency instability

65 kg payload  
can fall  
indifferently up  
or down

NO CREEP,

NO GRAVITY  
DRIVEN EFFECT

It is the Young's  
Modulus that  
Suddenly fails!

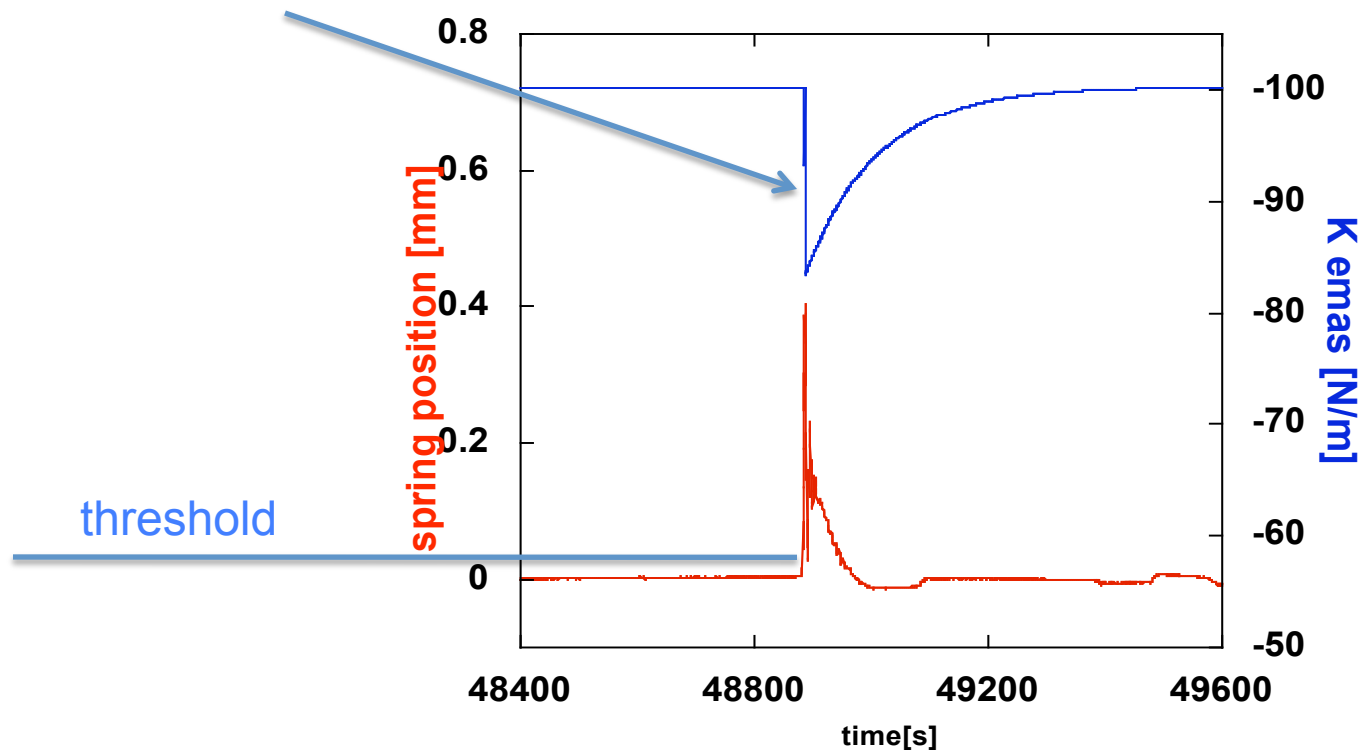


instability region mm  
starting from ~ 0.2 Hz

*The run-off can be controlled!*

Control program detects the beginning of a run-off @ a threshold 30 mV=24mm

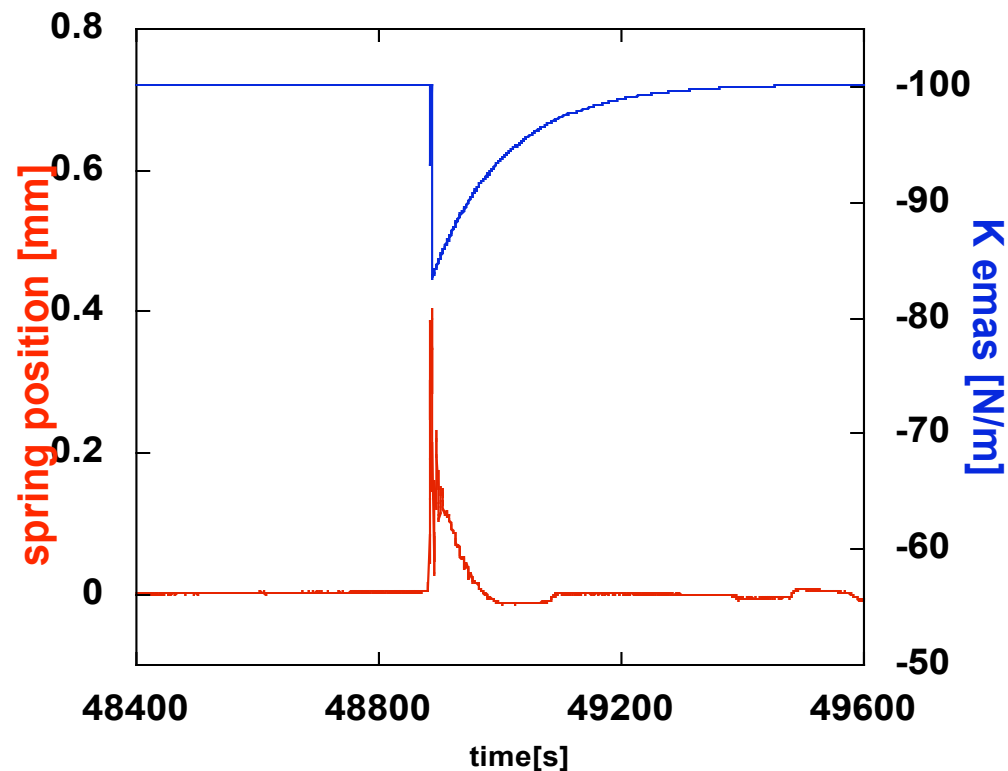
$K_{emas}$  reduced toward less negative value, give more time for re-entanglement



The propagation of the avalanches across the blade is stopped

The system re-stabilizes at a different equilibrium position.

The feedback brings the spring back to the working point.



### Explanation:

restoring force of the crystal lattice nulled by the GAS and EMAS mechanism,  
 System kept stable by the restoring force of entangled dislocations.

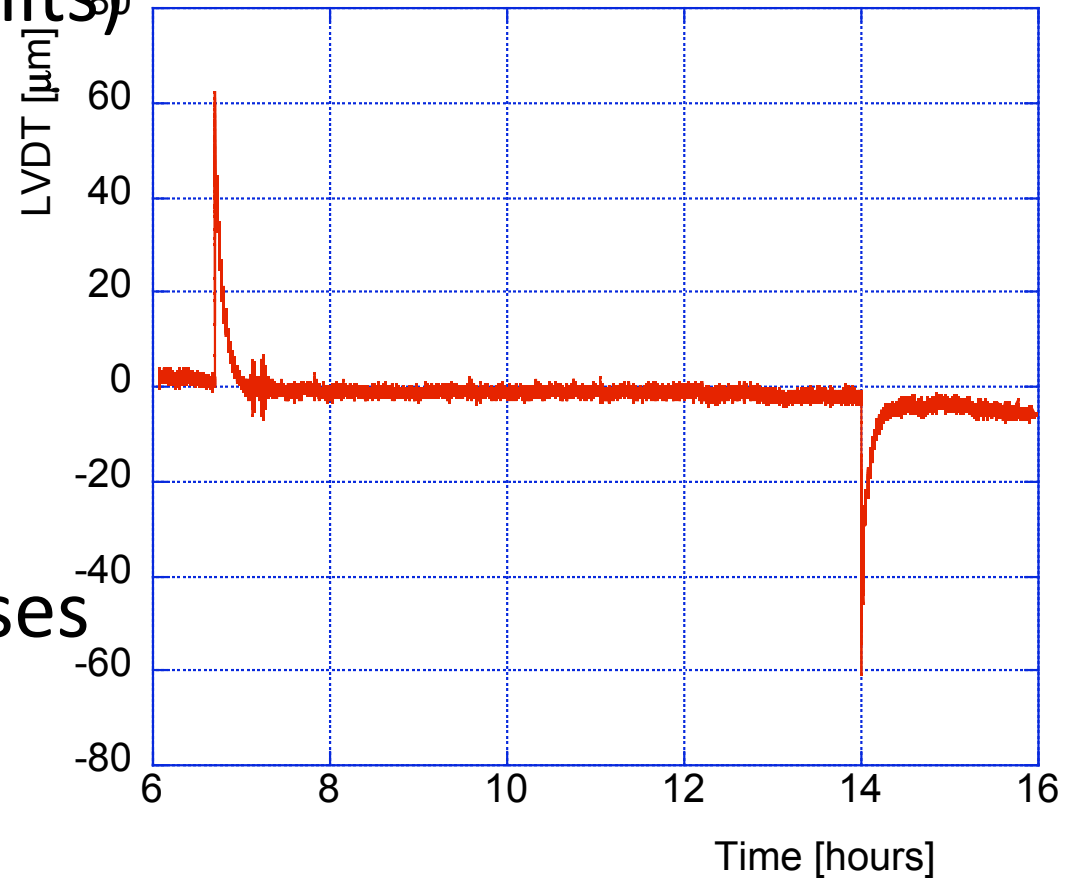
Perturbations cause some disentanglement, **THE DOMINO EFFECT  
 PROPAGATES AVALANCHES OVER THE WHOLE SPRING'S VOLUME,**

trigger collapse

reduced EMAS gain gives back control to crystal elasticity  
 stops the spreading

# *Run-off causes*

- Thermal drifts
- Drifting forces (tilts)
- External jerks



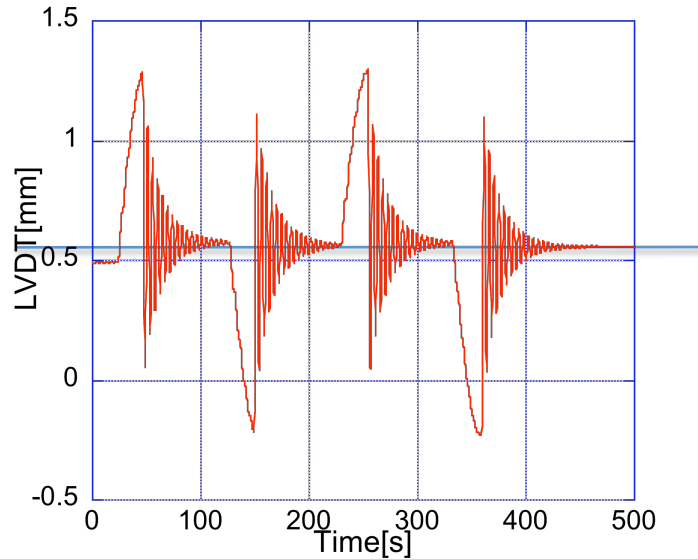
- No external causes
- No run-offs



# *Hysteresis and anelasticity*

# Exploring the effects of hysteresis at various frequencies

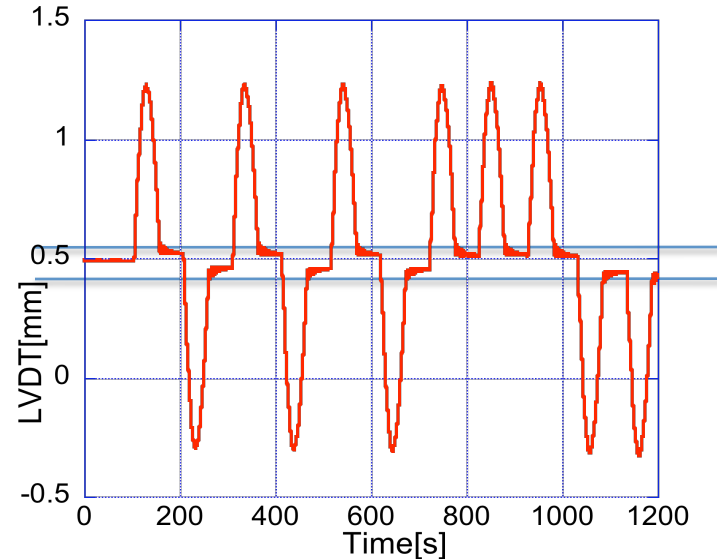
frequency 0.21 Hz (>0.2Hz) 113 N/m



We apply a force lifting the spring to a certain height, then cut the force and let the system oscillate freely:

**NO HYSTERESIS OBSERVED**

**OSCILLATIONS APPEAR TO WASH-OUT HYSTERESIS**

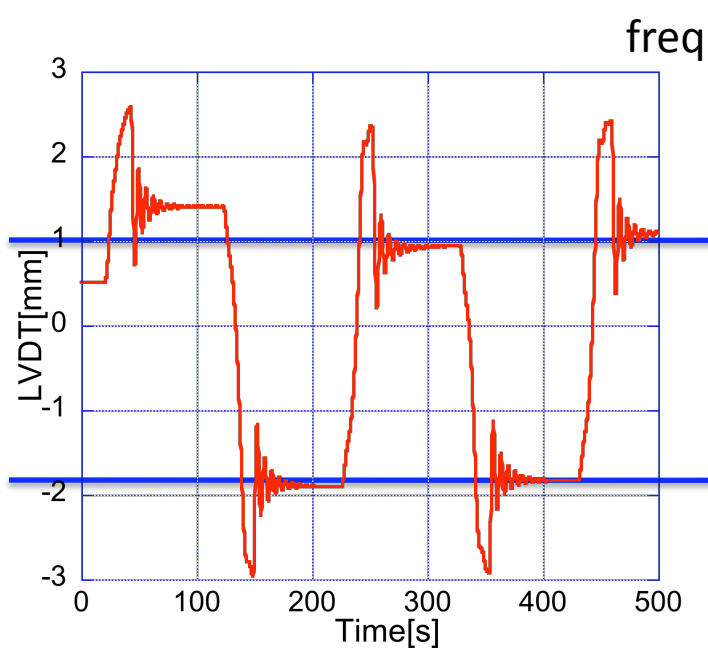


Subjecting the system to the same force, but slowly returning the lifting force to zero, thus generating no oscillations:

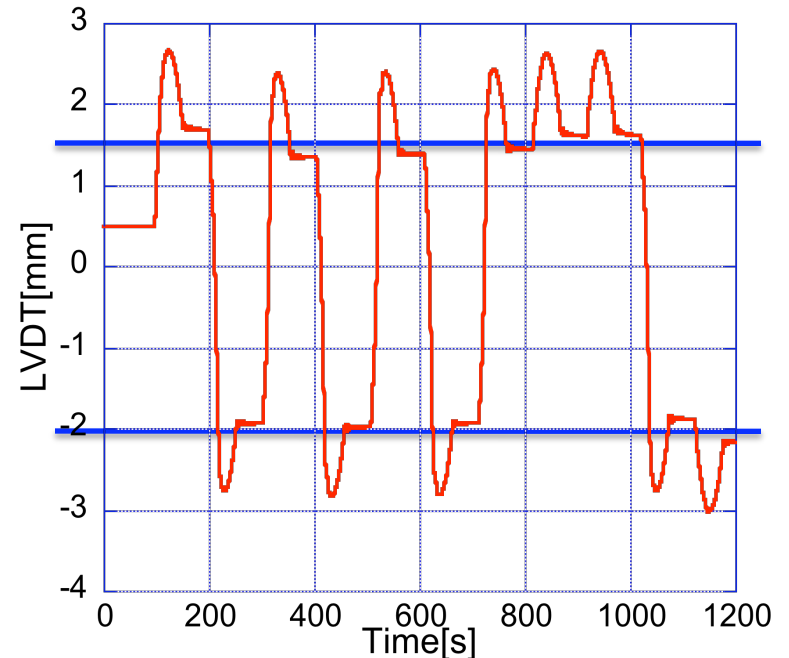
**HYSTERESIS OBSERVED FOR ALTERNATE SIGN EXCITATION**

**NO HYSTERESIS FOR SAME SIGN EXCITATION**

# *Hysteresis grows much larger at lower frequency*

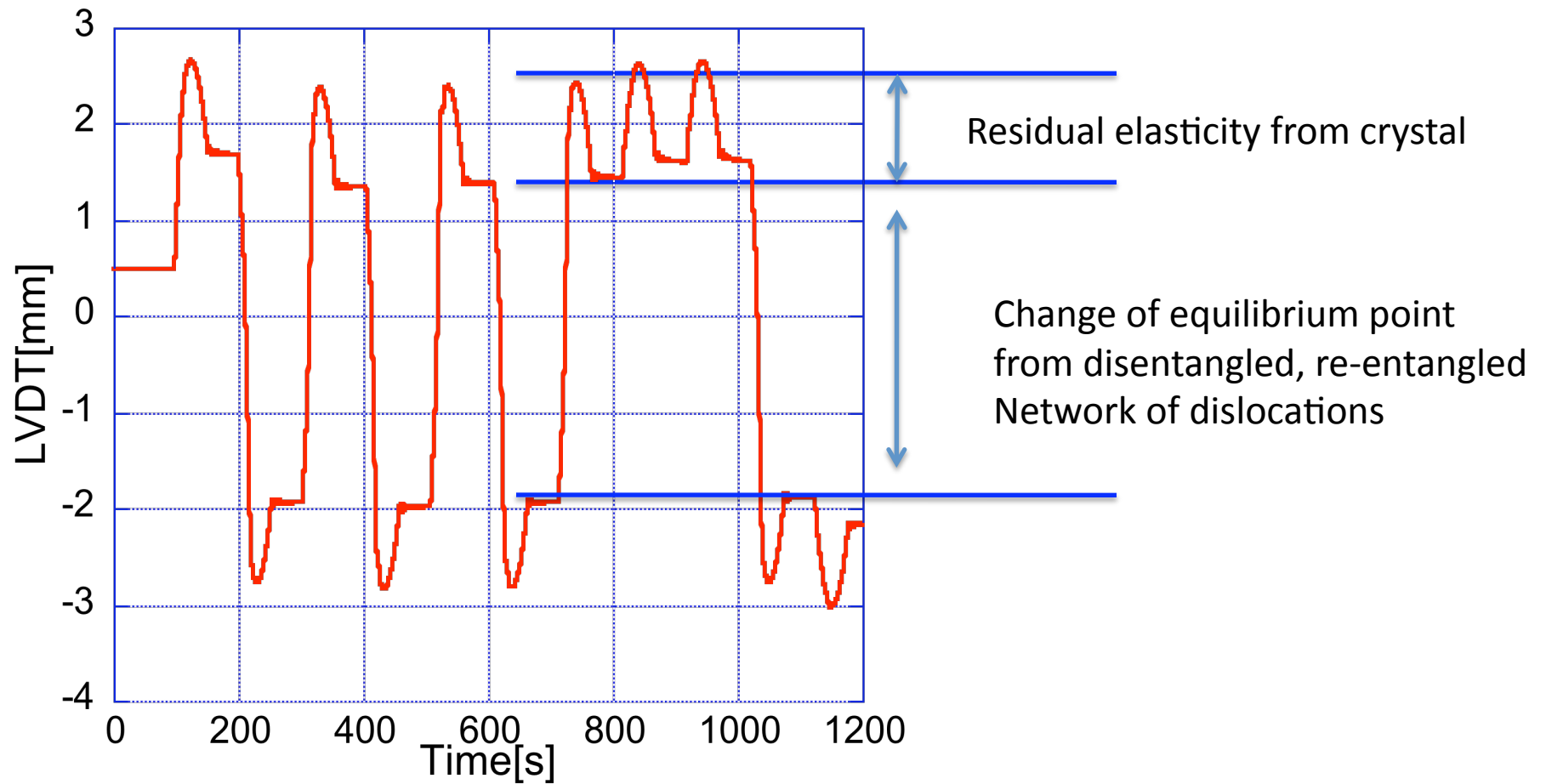


OSCILLATIONS APPEAR to be ineffective TO WASH-OUT HYSTERESIS at low frequency: not enough oscillations to delete hysteresis

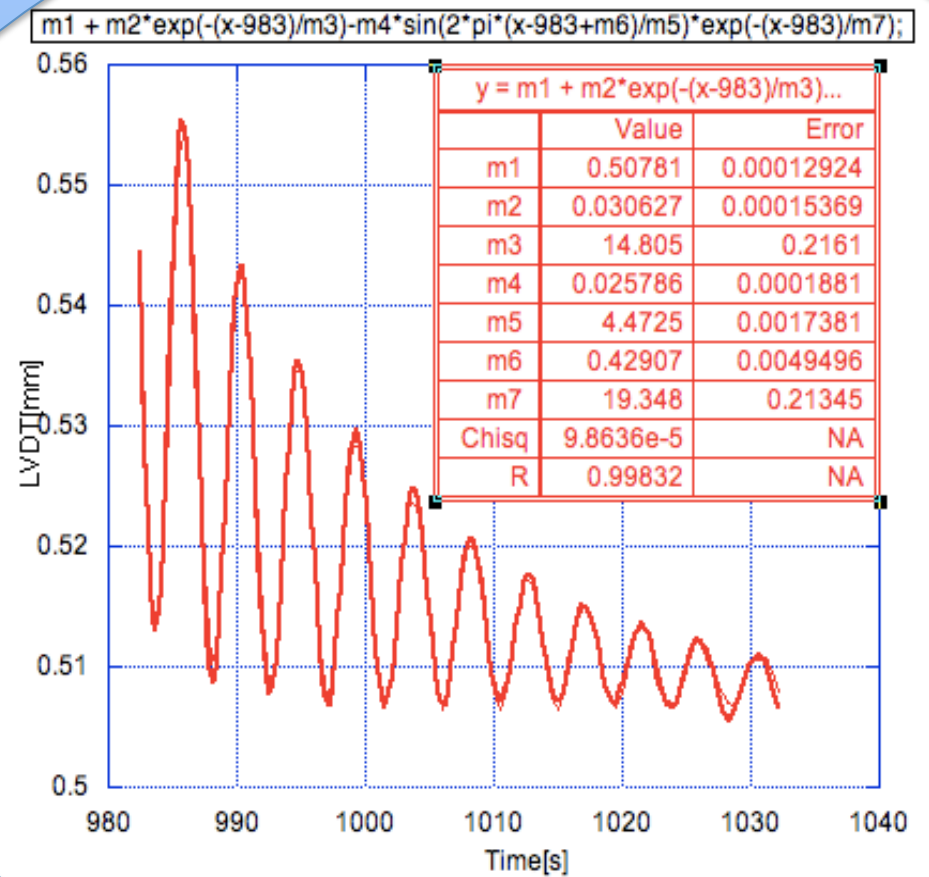
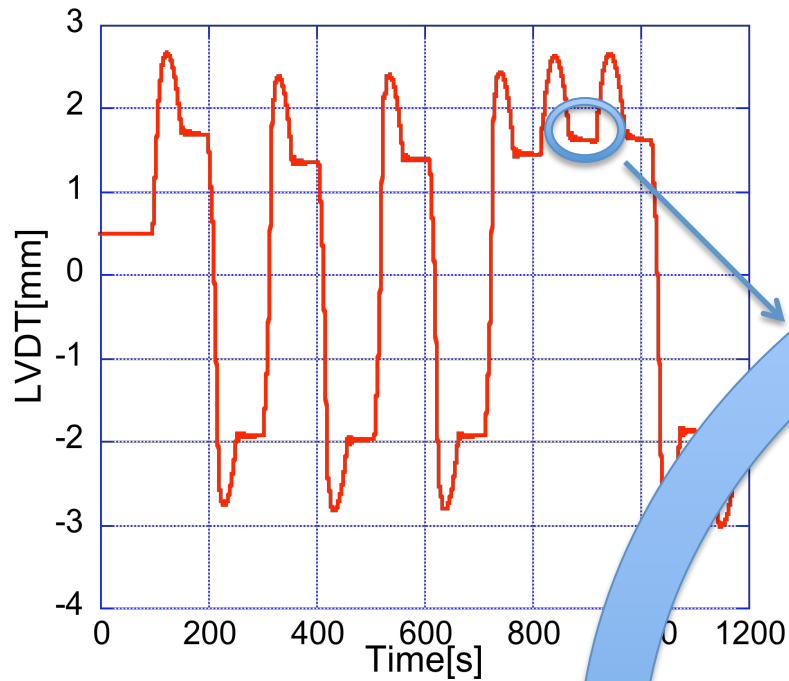


Proposed explanation:  
below 0.2 Hz the restoring force is dominated by entangled dislocations. Under pulsed stresses dislocations mobilize and eventually re-entangle elsewhere generating a different equilibrium position.

# *Hysteresis grows much larger at lower frequency*

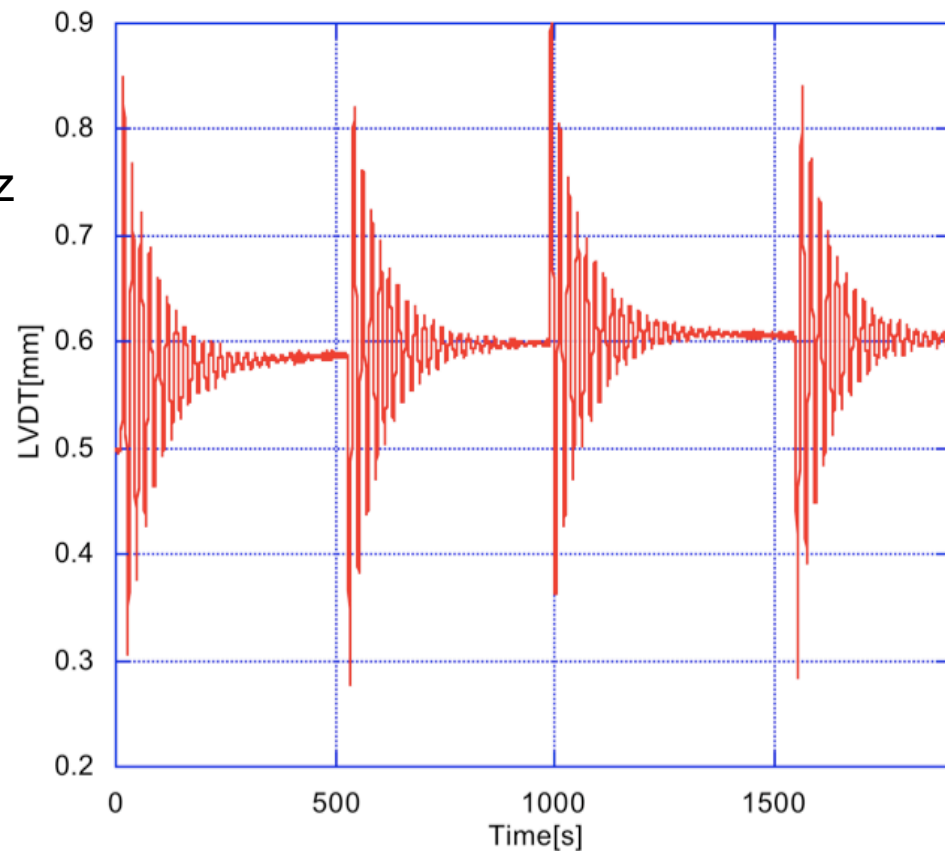
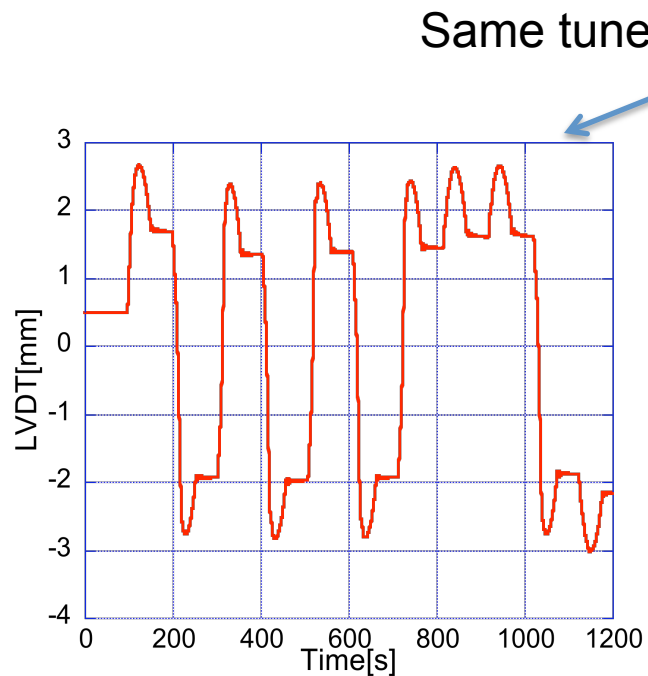


# Anelasticity



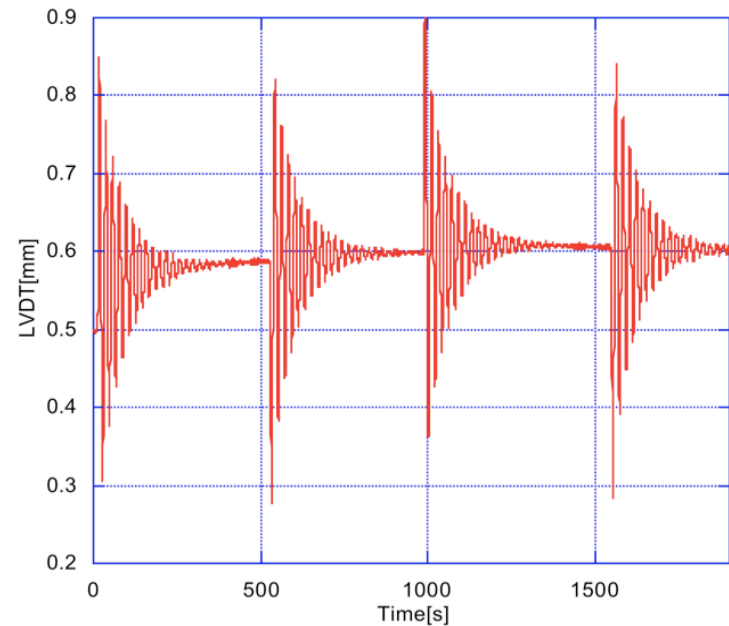
# Controlling hysteresis

- Forced, slowly decaying oscillations eliminate hysteresis even at low frequency tune



# *Controlling hysteresis* $\Leftrightarrow$ *controlling noise*

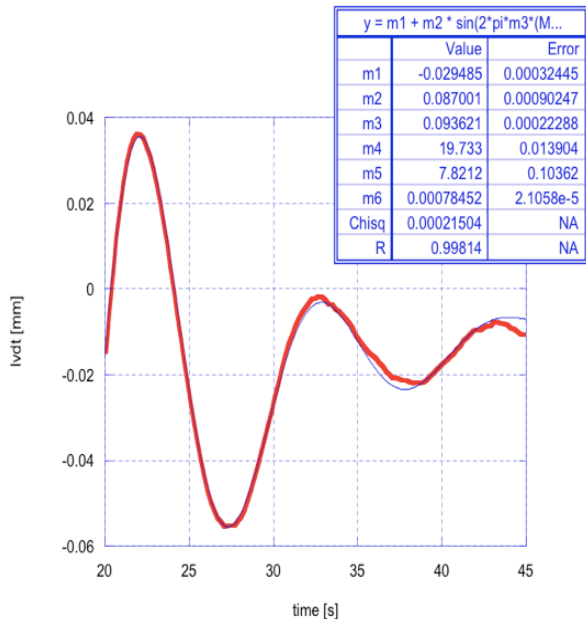
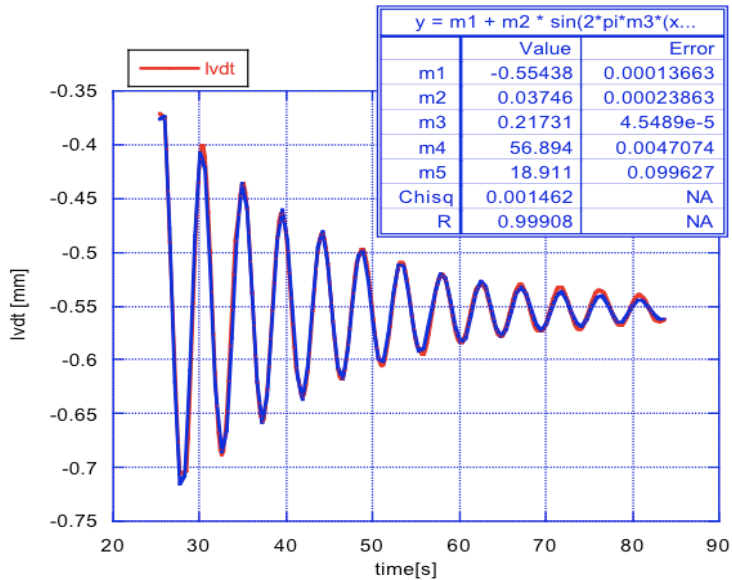
- Forced oscillations smooth out dislocation landscape
- Bring the system away from the critical slope
- Eliminate the source of avalanching



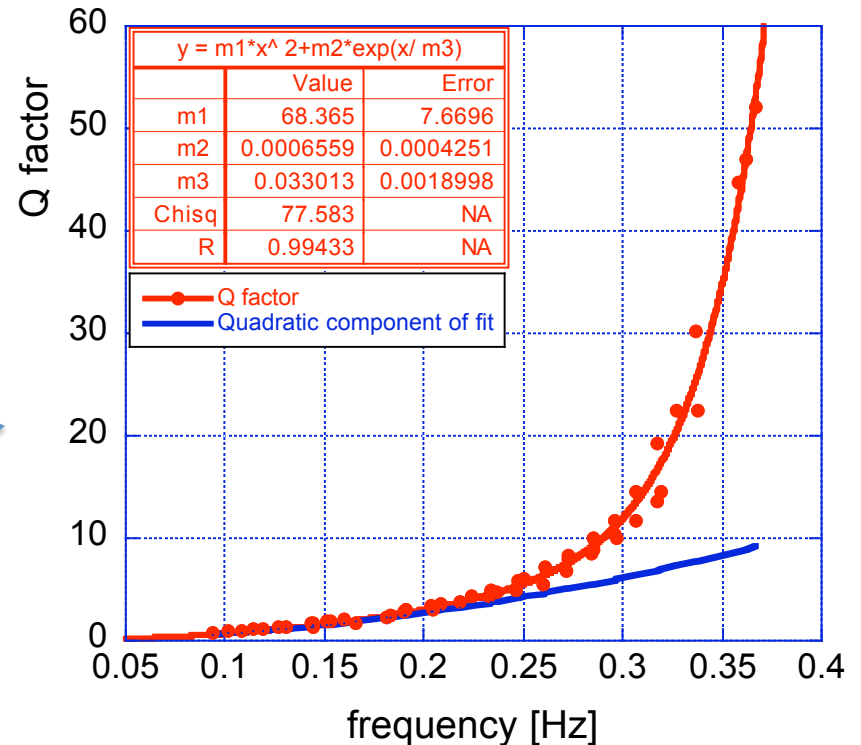
*Quality factor measurements*



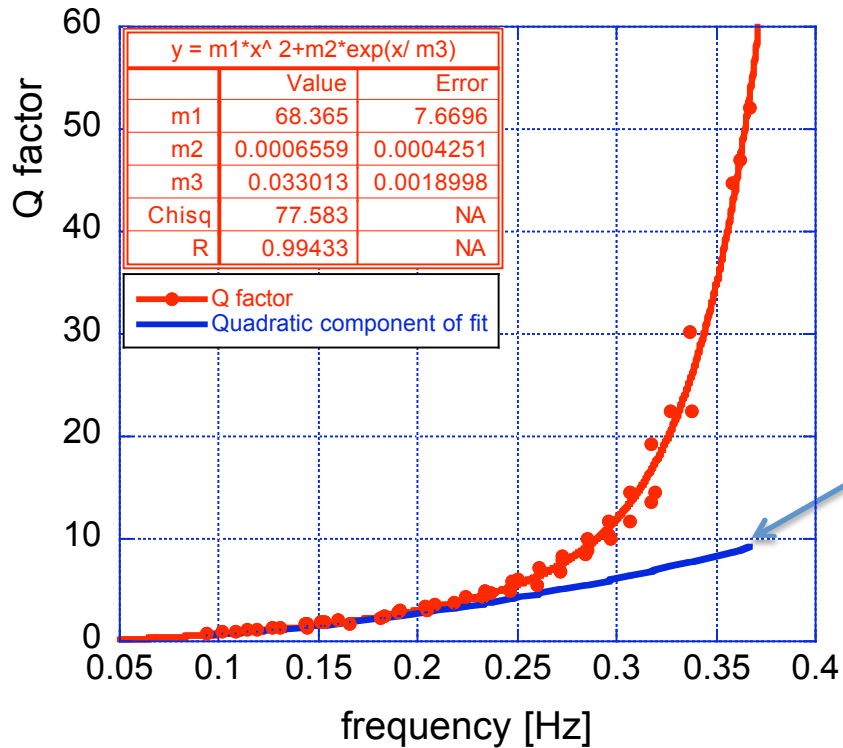
# Quality factor measurement



- METHOD
- Change the frequency with GAS and EMAS mechanism
- Acquire ringdowns
- Measure  $Q = \omega t$



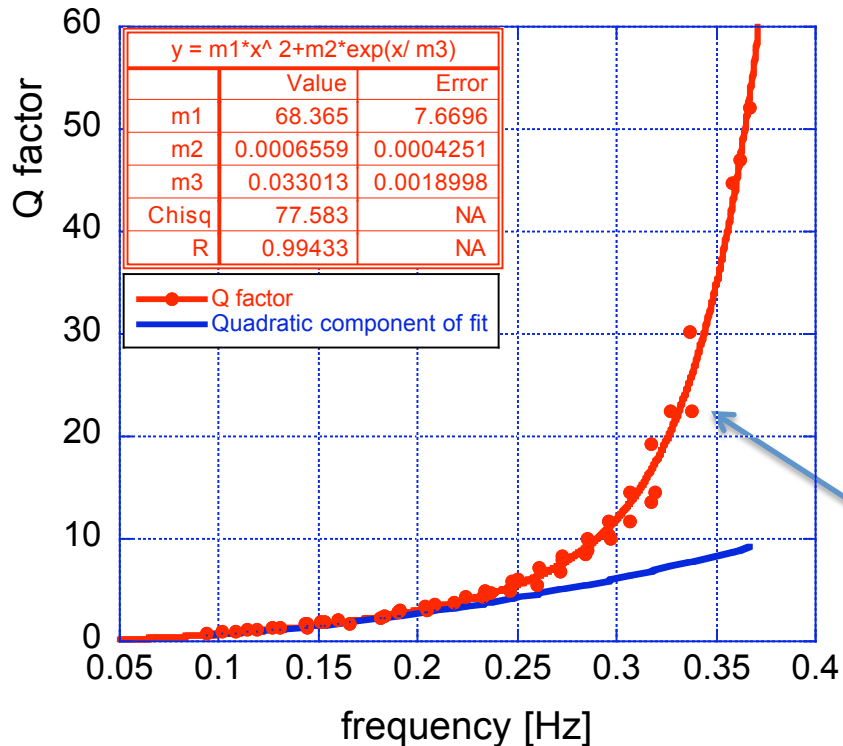
# Quality factor measurement



the expected behavior is quadratic  
if the losses are frequency independent

# Quality factor measurement

The fast increase of Q-factor implies reduced losses at higher frequencies



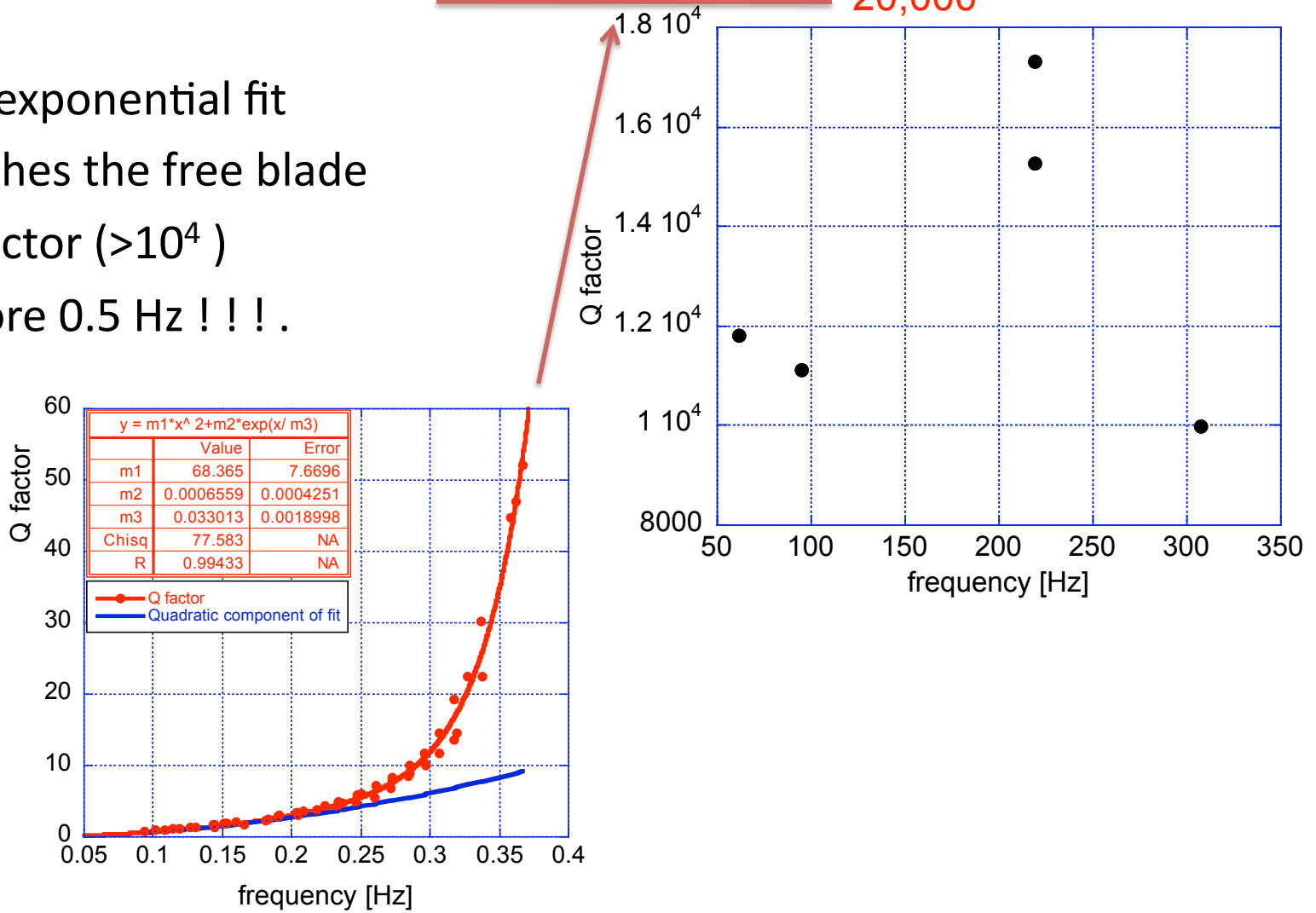
explainable if the dissipation process needs long time to develop:

AVALANCHES NEED LONG TIME TO DEVELOP

The deviation from quadratic was fit with an exponential function accounting for the exponential growth of avalanches with time

# Maraging free blades Q-factor

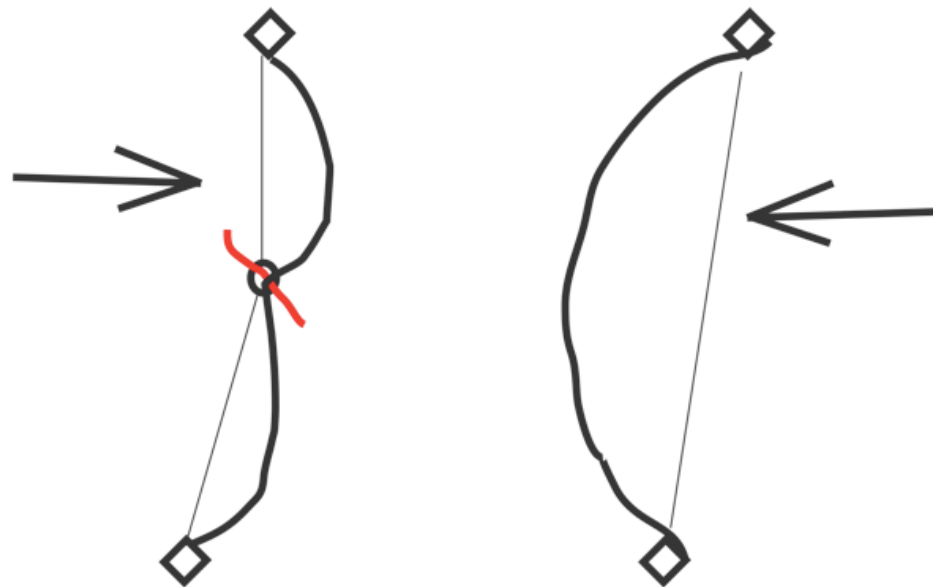
- the exponential fit reaches the free blade Q-factor ( $>10^4$ ) before 0.5 Hz !!! .



# *Fluctuating Young's modulus*

- Disentangling dislocations increase the dislocation free length
- Will increase the amount of modulus defect
- Will increase dissipation

Forcing disentanglement  
with motion

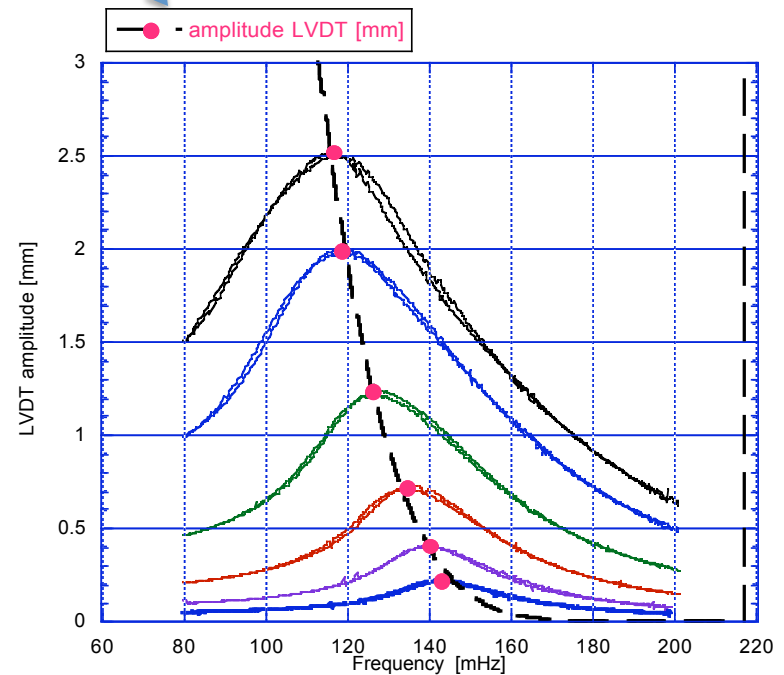
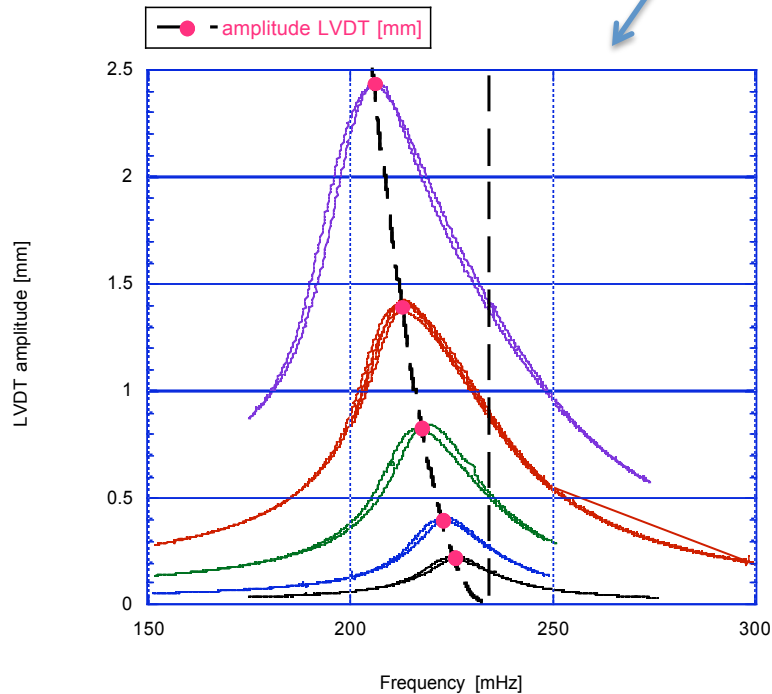


# Frequency dependence from amplitude

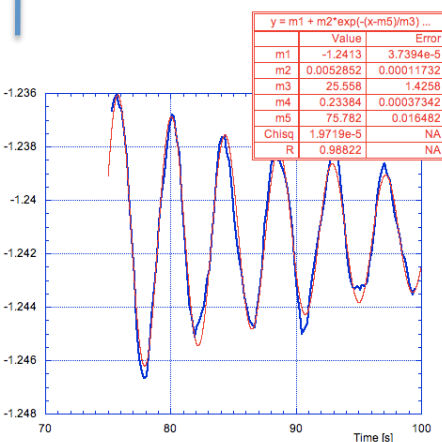
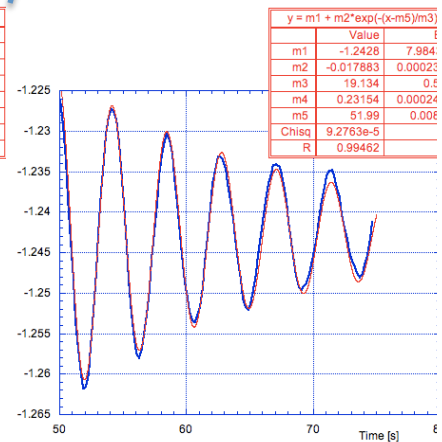
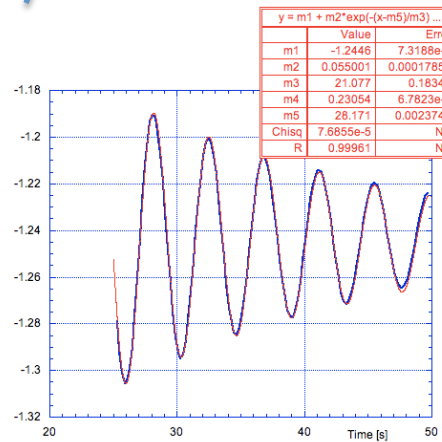
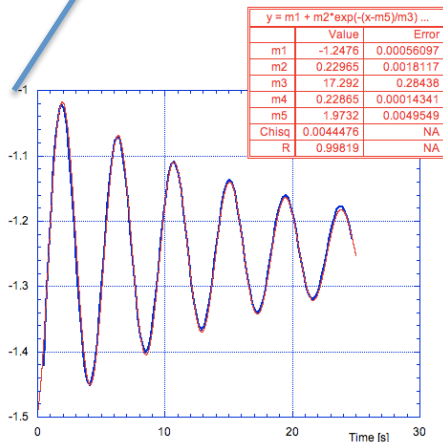
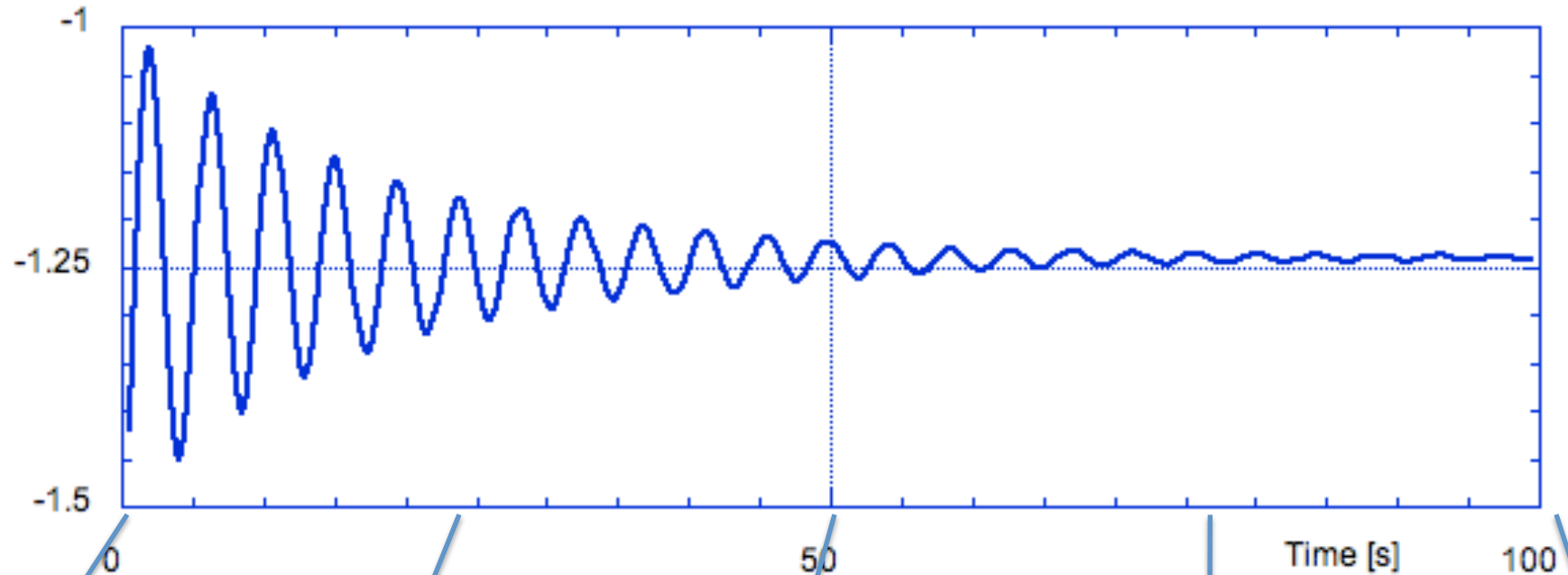
Swept sine excitation of different amplitudes.

Observed reduction of frequency for increasing excitation amplitude.

Experiment repeated for EMAS gain 0 and -2.



# Ringdown analysis



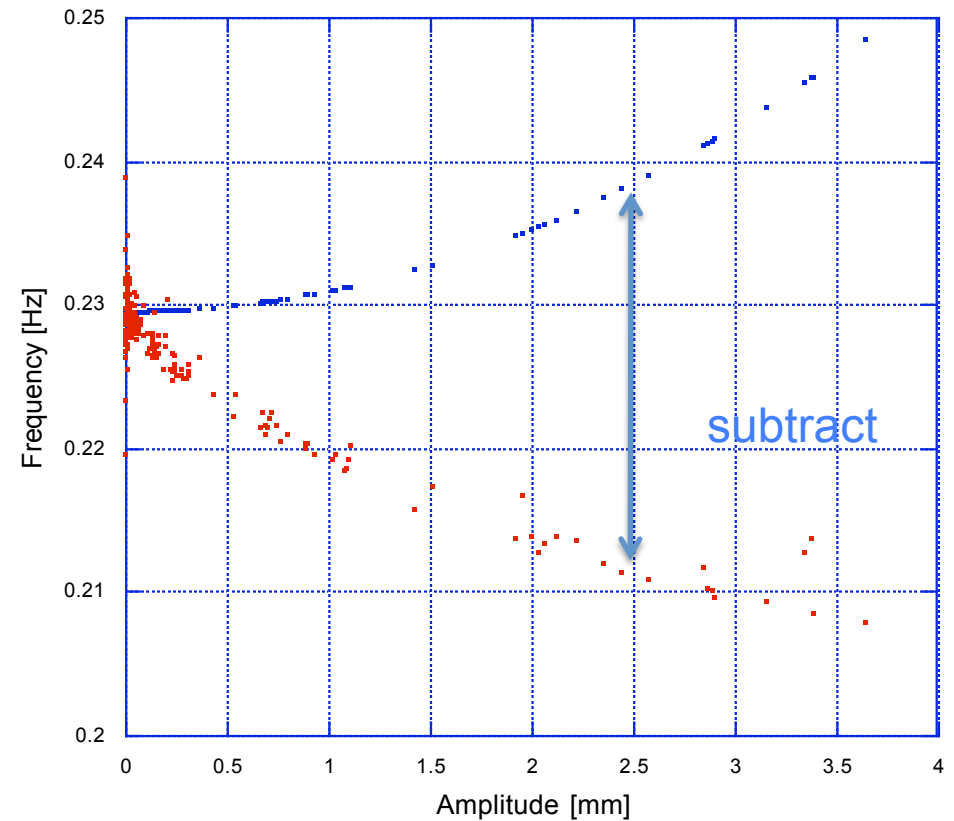




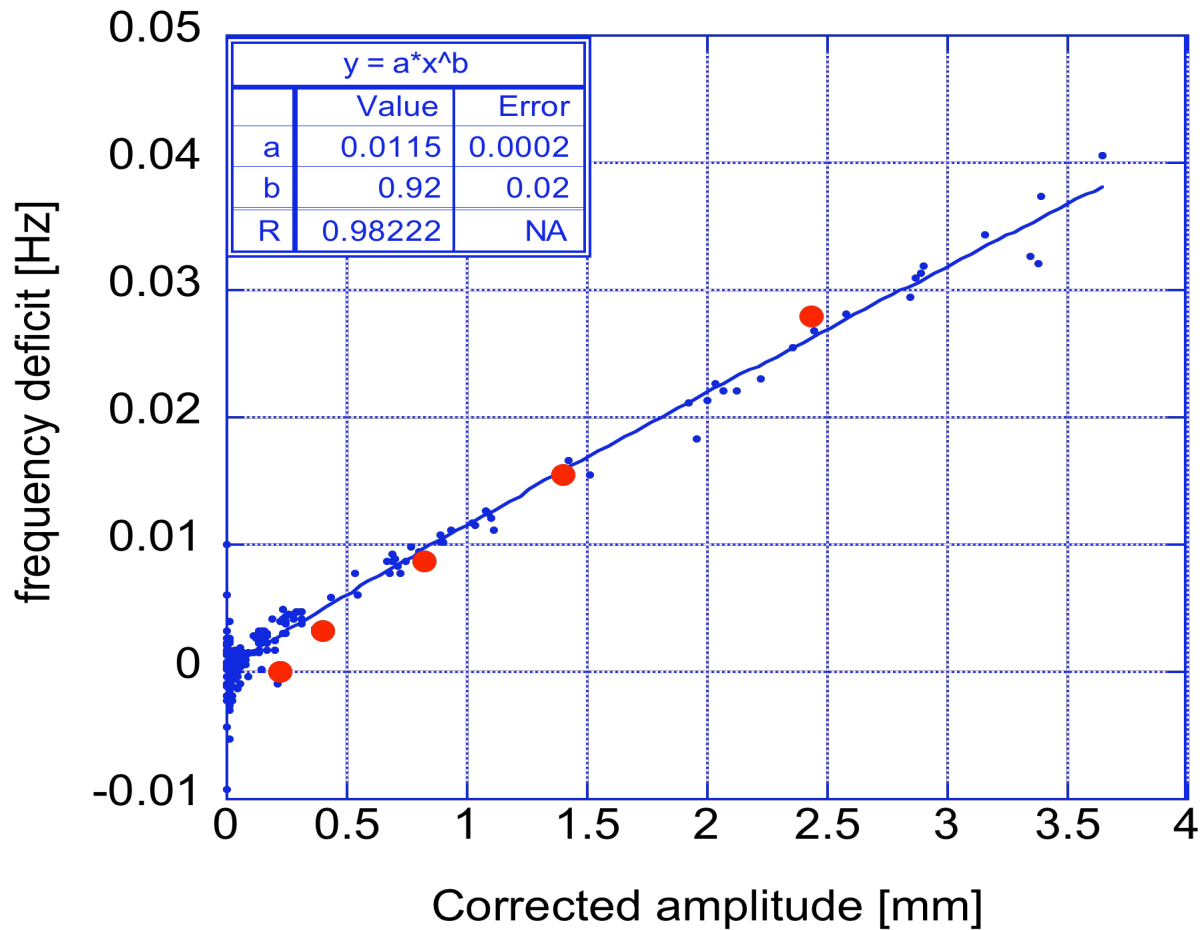
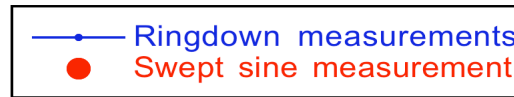
- We observe a frequency reduction at larger amplitudes...
- ... while we expected the opposite!

Blue = expected  
from measured GAS potential

Red = measured



- *Frequency deficit vs. oscillation amplitude*

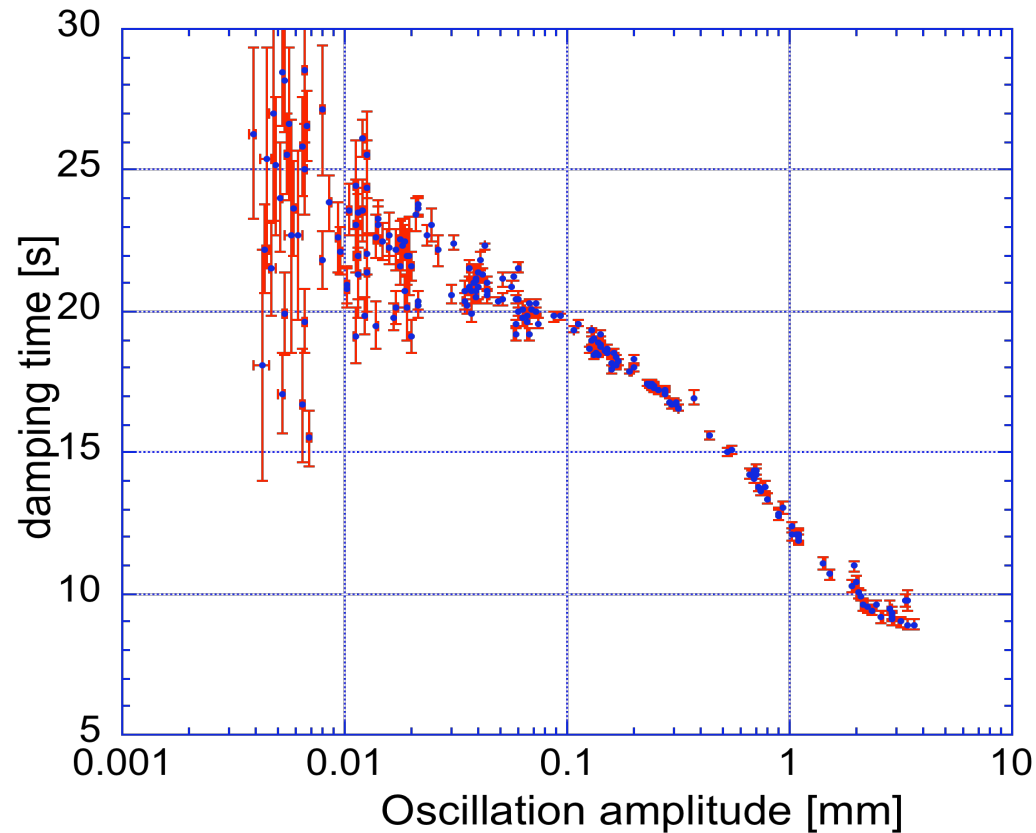


Young's modulus  
Drops with  
oscillation amplitude

*Excess Dissipation at larger oscillation amplitude*

# *Excess Dissipation at larger oscillation amplitude*

- Analyzing ring-downs.



- **damping time grows for smaller oscillation amplitude**
- **Proposed explanation:** larger oscillations can disentangle more dislocations, which then move freely and cause increased dissipation and shorter damping times.

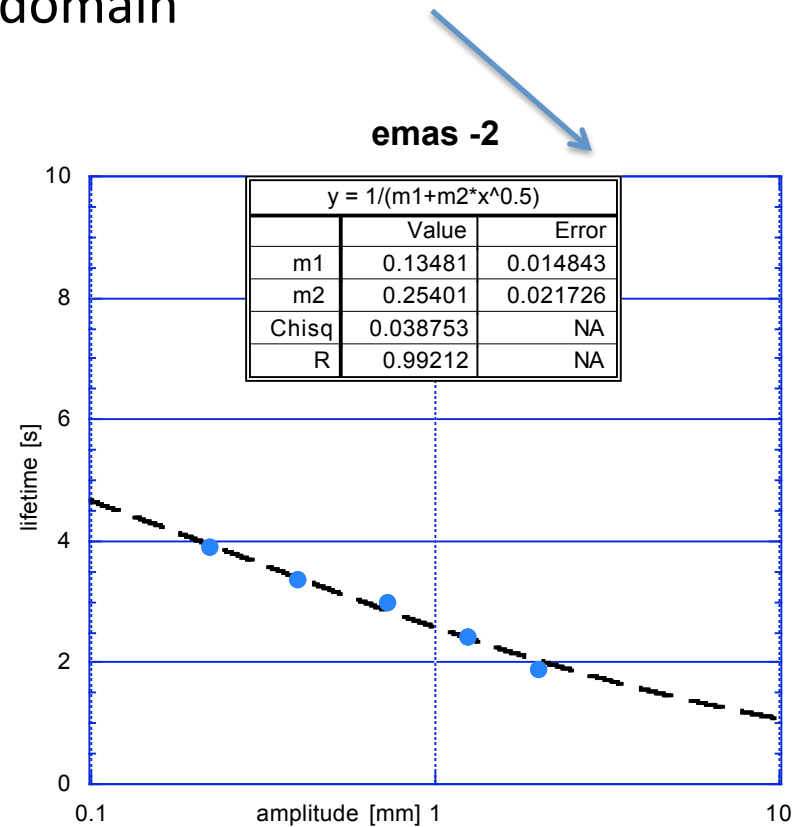
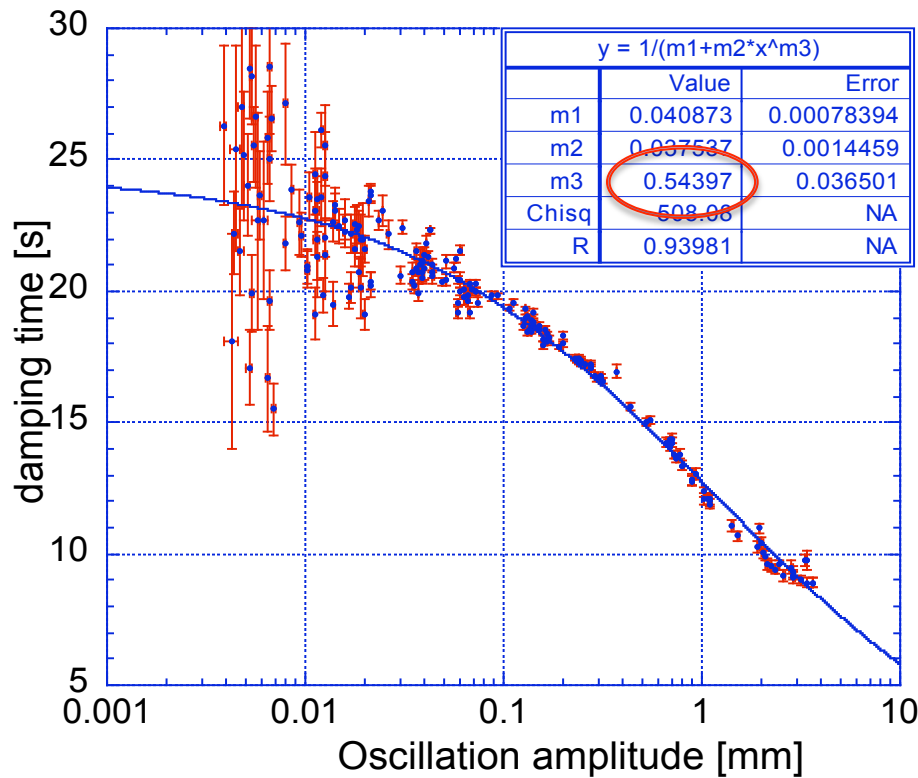
- ▶ Fitting the data with

$$\tau = \frac{1}{d_0 + \delta A^y}$$

we found an amplitude exponent of  $\sim 0.5$

power law => fractality / SOC ?

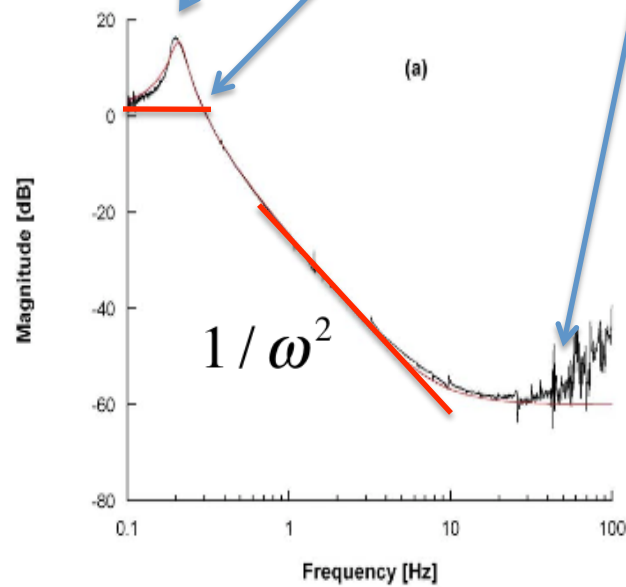
- ▶ Same behavior in the frequency domain



*Anomalous*  
*Transfer function of a GAS-filter*

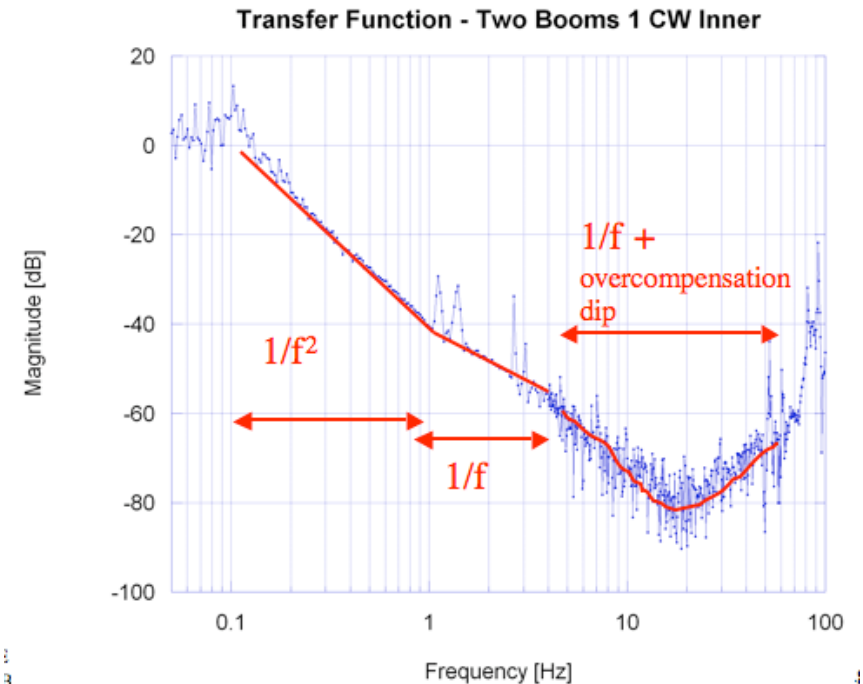
# Transfer function of a GAS-filter

$$H_z(\omega) = \frac{\omega_o^2(1+i\phi) + \beta\omega^2}{\omega_o^2(1+i\phi) + i\gamma\omega - \omega^2}$$



## Experimentally found

Stationary and Unexpected 1/f  
Transfer Function has been found  
when the GAS filter was tuned  
at or below 100 mHz



Fractal dynamics predicts 1/f noise

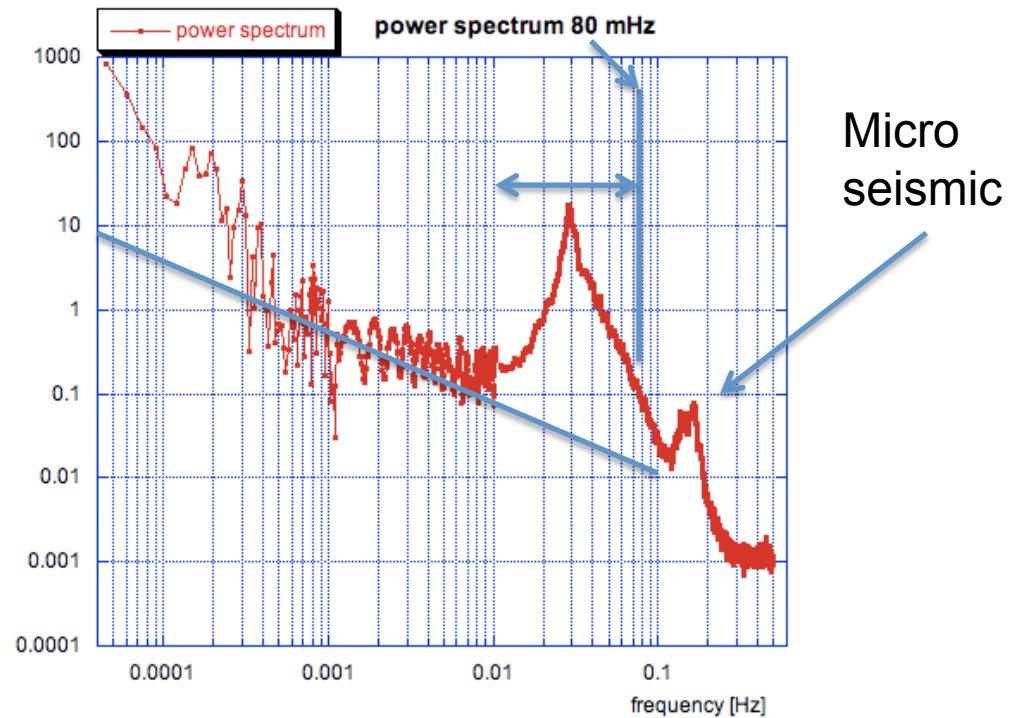
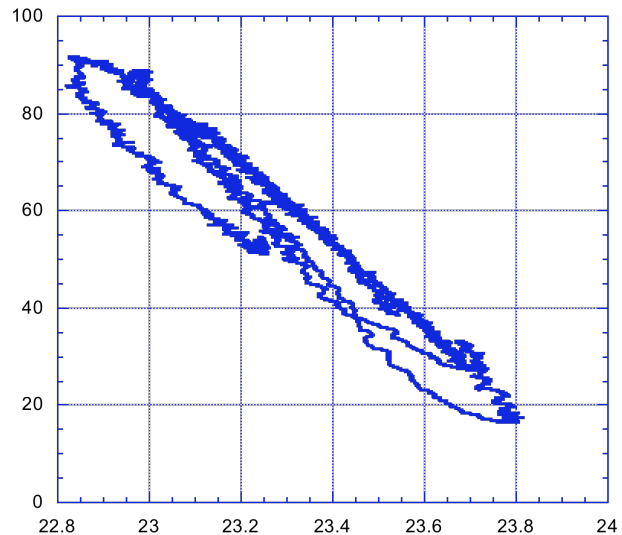
*The SAS seismic attenuation system for the Advanced LIGO Gravitational Wave Interferometric Detectors. A.Stochino et al., 2008*

# *Possible Explanation*

- When restoring forces are controlled by entangled dislocation rigidity
- avalanches randomly shift the equilibrium point
- Young's modulus and dissipation fluctuate
- Fractal behavior  $\Rightarrow$   $1/f$  power law



# Hysteresis *equal noise*



Hysteresis advanced by bumps → 1/f noise

During avalanching Young's modulus decreases

Resonant frequency spread from 80 mHz to 30 mHz and lower

# *First Conclusions*

- ✓ Static hysteresis was the first indicator of something shifting inside the material.
- ✓ Hysteresis, run-offs, changing Young's modulus, the 1/f GAS filter TF, and several other unexpected effects were explained in terms of SOC dynamics of entangled/disentangled dislocations.
- ✓ An avalanche dominated 1/f noise is expected at low frequencies.
- ✓ The behavior observed in Maraging blades may actually be typical of most polycrystalline metals at sufficiently low frequencies.

# *Does avalanching noise affect Virgo*

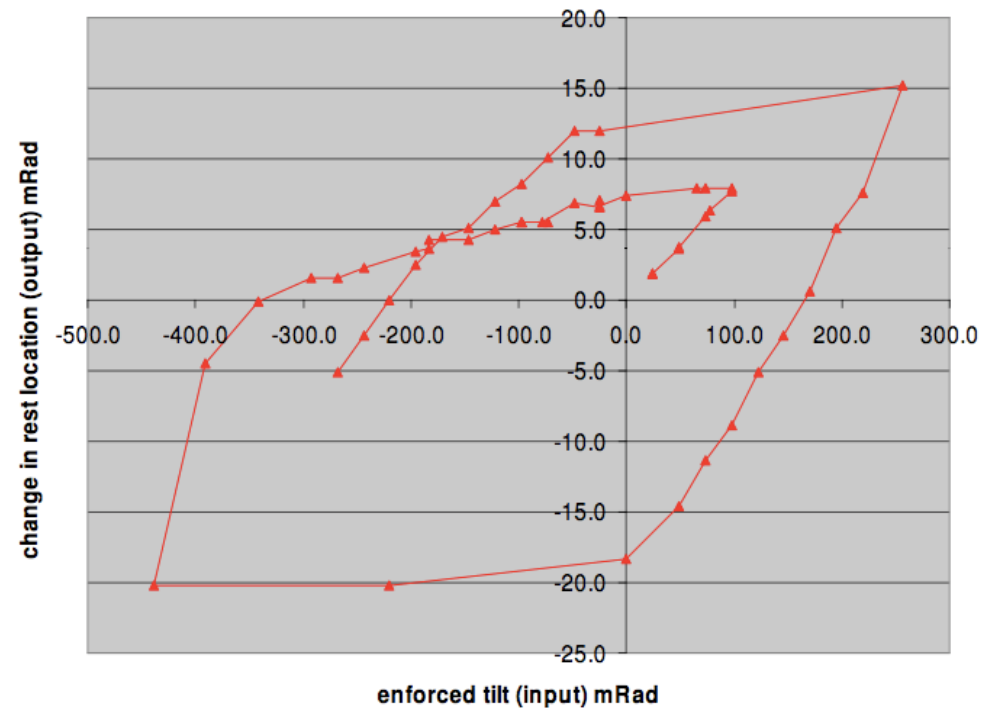
- Inverted pendulum random walk
- Virgo – Tama IP (Takahashi Kyoto presentation)
- Possible noise above the marionetta level percolating into the LF performance
- Well controlled in Virgo (Braccini kyoto presentation)

# Will avalanching noise affect *Advanced LIGO*

- YES!
- Hysteresis means avalanches!
- Possibly affects even present LIGO

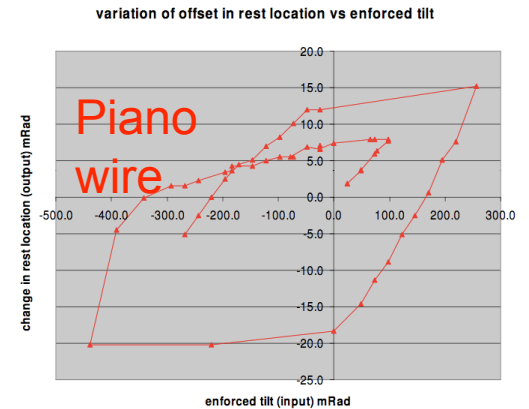
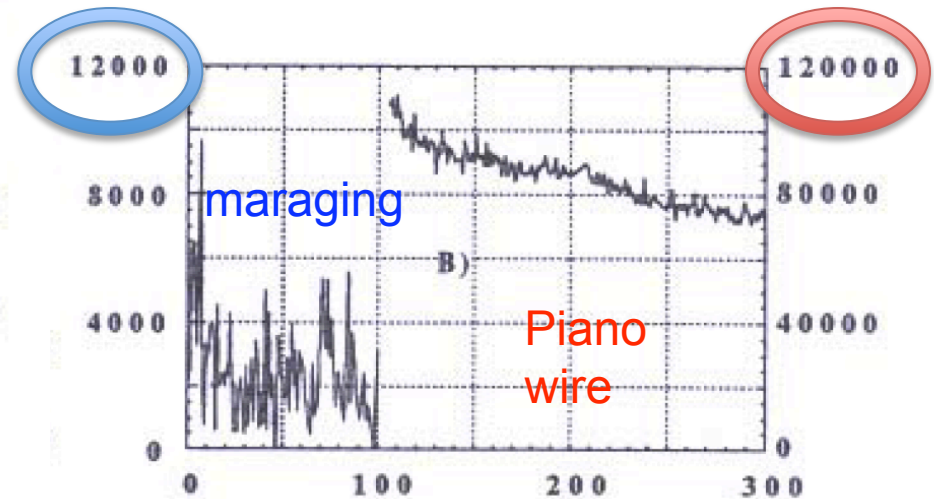
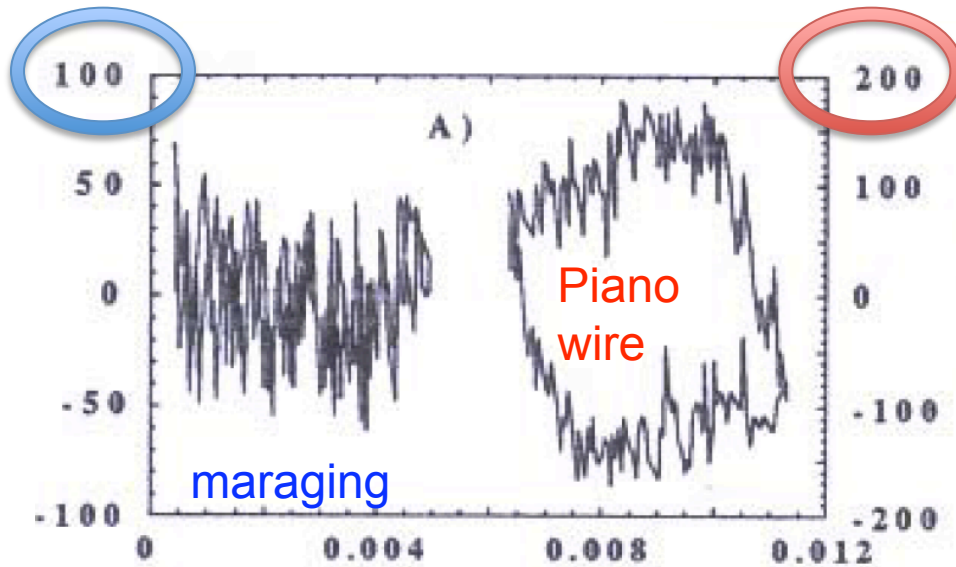
Hysteresis measured in the Advanced LIGO multiple pendulum

variation of offset in rest location vs enforced tilt



# Do the positive Virgo results apply to Advanced LIGO

- Not necessarily

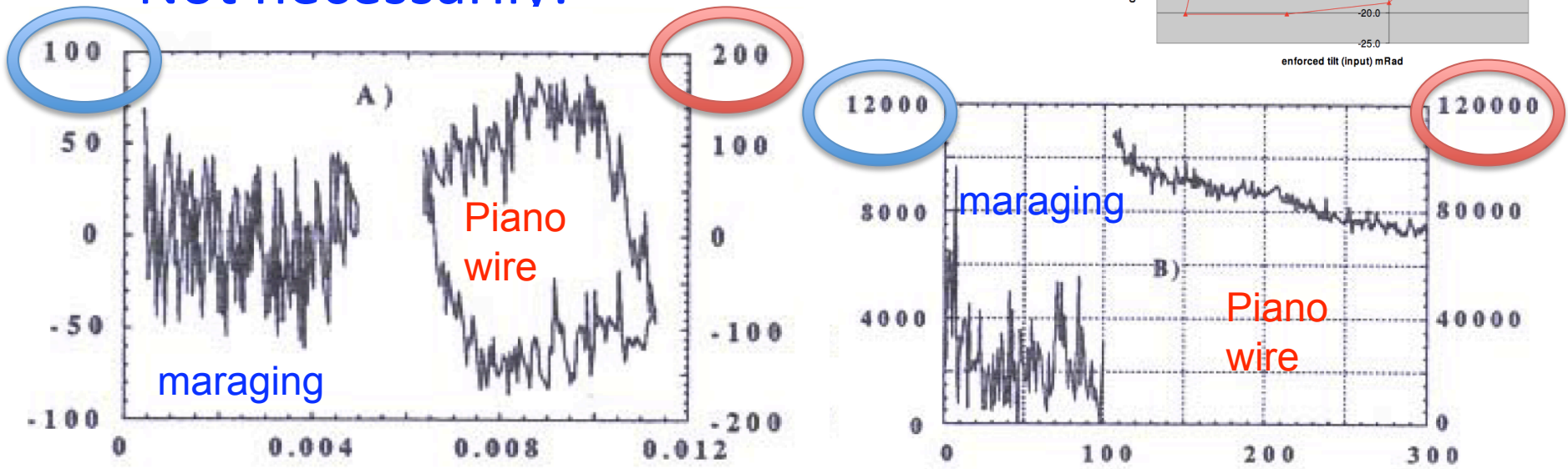


- AdVirgo suspensions are all Maraging
- AdLIGO suspensions are all piano wire

R DeSalvo, "Non stochastic noise in gravitational wave detectors", proceedings of the second Edoardo Amaldi conference, CERN Switzerland, World Scientific, p 228-239, 1997

# Do the positive Virgo results apply to *Advanced LIGO*

- Not necessarily:



- In addition shear clamps, worse possible choice
- Can we avoid or mitigate its effect

T.J. Quinn, et al., "Stress-dependent damping in CuBe torsion and flexure suspensions at stresses up to 1.1GPa.", Physics Letters A, 197, p 197-208, 1995.

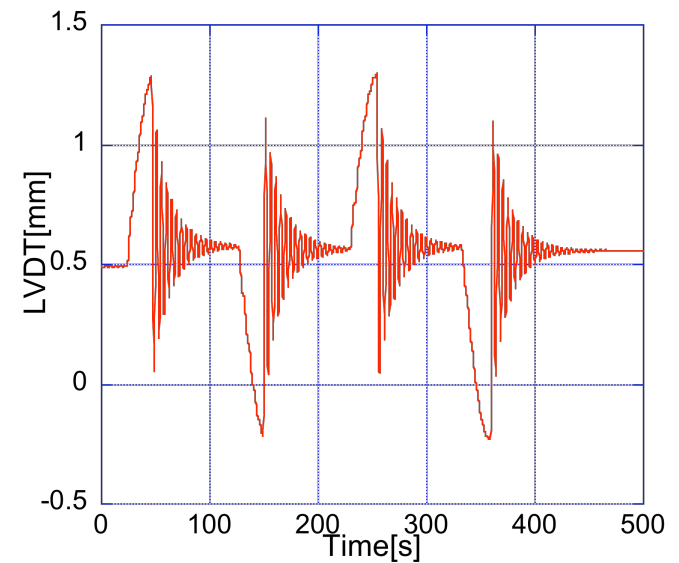
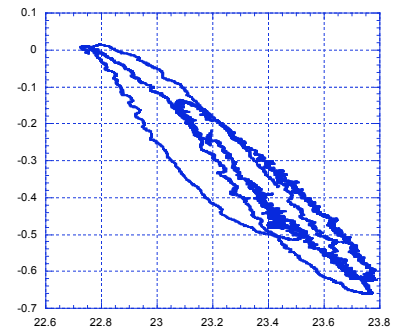
*SOC noise is a dynamic effect*

*It needs a power source  
to generate critical slope*

*No power source, no SOC noise*

# Good practices and palliatives for Advanced Interferometers

- Reduce thermal fluctuations
- Impede slow movements (tidal, etc.) in the low stages of attenuation chains
- Work at true equilibrium point (not a dislocation pattern induced one)
- Periodically flatten the dislocation landscape with forced oscillations





# *Long term solutions?*

- ✓ New materials and processes need to be explored to design the seismic isolation of third generation, lower frequency GW interferometers
- ✓ **Glassy materials** that do not contain dislocations or  
**polar compounds** that do not allow dislocation movement  
candidate materials for seismic attenuation filters and inertial sensors
- ✓ Dislocation movement impede fragility  
we want to avoid their movement
- ✓ => fragility may be an unavoidable effect

*is there a better solution?*

- ✓ Need dislocation for ductility
- ✓ But we need to stop dislocation avalanching
- ✓ There is a better solution . . .
- ✓ Pin the dislocations, stop avalanching  
(to be patented)

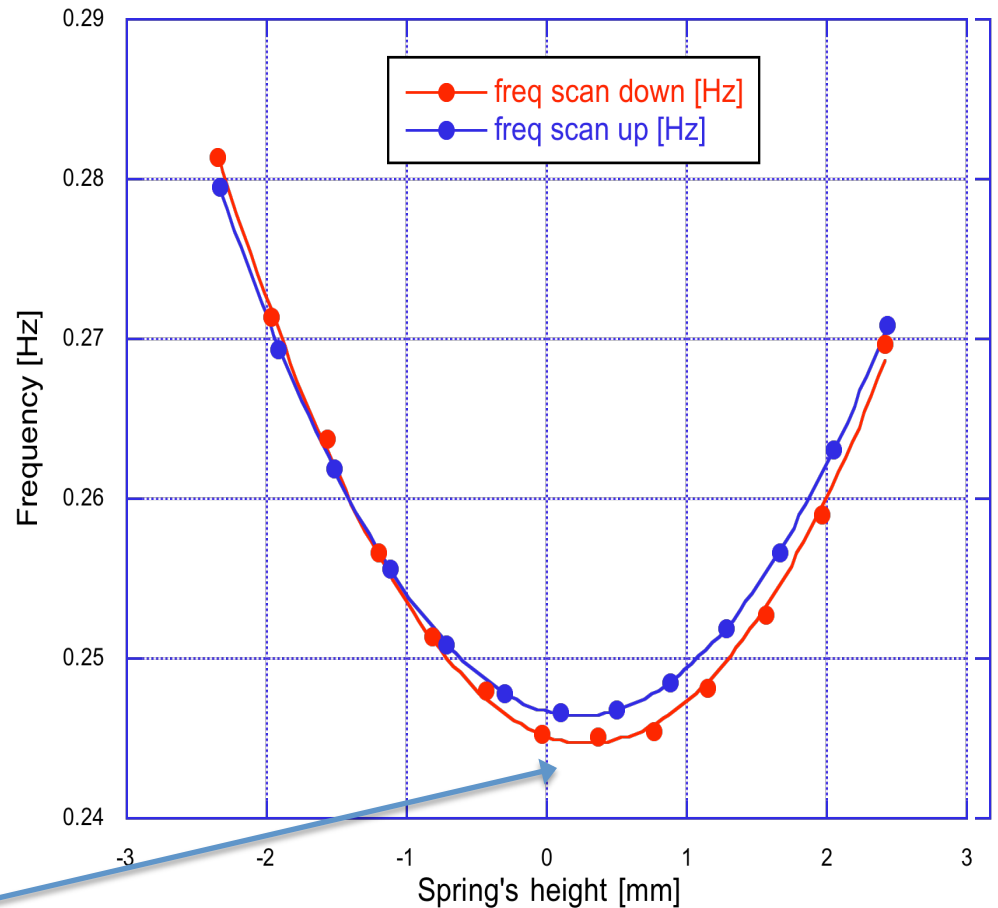
*Thank you for your attention*

# GAS Deviation from linear spring

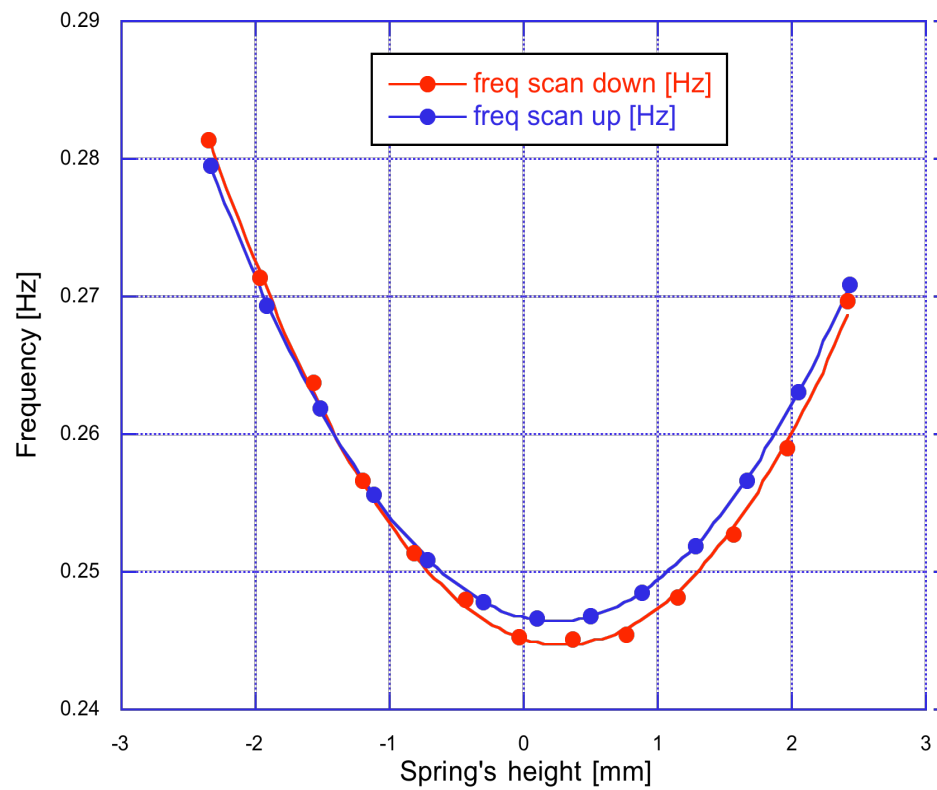
- Calculating the expected frequency shift

# Working point

- The GAS mechanism is optimized at the height where the radial compression of the blades is maximized.
- To determine the optimal working point we used the actuator to apply a progression of fixed vertical forces.
- At each height we applied a short pulse to excite the spring and found the oscillation frequency.
- We looked for the minimal resonant frequency (working point).



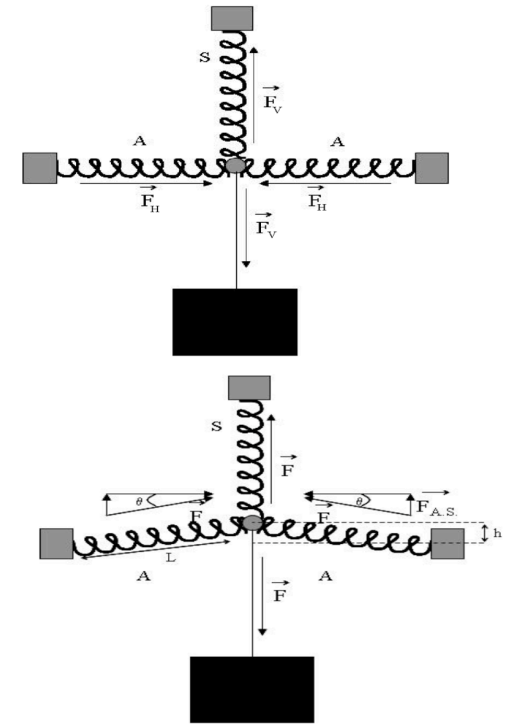
- Larger excitation amplitudes (around the working point), bring the system to explore regions of higher frequency.
- Higher resonant frequencies are expected.



- The GAS spring geometry requires a potential in the form  $U = -\frac{1}{2}kx^2 - bx^4$  so that the equation of motion will be

$$m\ddot{x} + kx + cx^3 = 0$$

- We solve it numerically, with  $m=65\text{Kg}$ ,  $k=125\text{ N/m}$  and the coefficient  $c = 2200000\text{ N/m}^3$  was tuned to match the measured frequency dependence from amplitude
- Then we simulated progressively larger oscillation amplitudes around the working point and monitored the frequency, thus obtaining . . . .



# Expected frequency vs. amplitude

Using the parameters of this quadratic fit, we calculated the expected frequency for each of the measured points

